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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXX, No. 21

Section 1

August 1, 1938

## NATIONAL HEALTH PLAN

The Federal Government will spend more than \$135,000,000 during the coming year in the largest national health program in history. When the National Health Conference debated whether the Government should appropriate Federal funds for medical care, Federal officials asserted that such arguments were "academic philosophizing" since the Government "is already up to its ears" in providing medical care. Scattered through a half dozen departments and independent organizations are bureaus which are directly administering the use of the \$135,000,000 medical aid fund. These agencies, one official pointed out, already are doing what medical authorities have fought-- directing and supervising the practice of medicine. Objection to such supervision was one of the chief points raised by the American Medical Association in opposing a proposal to provide \$850,000,000 from the Treasury to supply medical care for those too poor to afford it. (Associated Press.)

## FOUR-LANE TOLL ROAD

An all-weather four-lane toll "super highway," running 162 miles between Harrisburg and Pittsburgh, will be financed jointly by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the Public Works Administration at a cost of \$58,000,000, says Administrator Ickes of the PWA. The new road, described as the most direct east-west highway connection in the eastern part of the country, will receive a loan of about \$32,000,000 from the RFC and about \$26,000,000 free from the PWA. Tolls will be charged on a basis to repay the RFC. The allotment of \$58,000,000 will be the first in which the RFC and PWA have worked together in financing projects and will be made to the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission. (New York Times.)

## SOVIET UNION TRADE PACT

The United States is about to conclude a commercial agreement with the Soviet Union by which the Soviets will in one year promise to purchase at least \$40,000,000 worth of American products. The agreement will replace an existing one expiring August 5. Negotiations have been conducted at Moscow under the American Charge d'Affaires, Alexander Kirk. By virtue of the agreement's statement of the Soviet's intention to purchase American products, the U.S.S.R. will receive most-favored-nation treatment from the United States. (Associated Press.)



Fertilizer                      C. H. Nissley, New Jersey Experiment Station, reports  
Transplanter    in Country Gentleman (August) that "this year for the first  
   time a new transplanter with a fertilizer attachment is  
being tried out by a manufacturer of agricultural implements. This unit  
applies the fertilizer in two bands, one on either side of the row, and  
places the fertilizer to a depth of from two to five inches, depending  
upon the character of the soil and the depth at which the machine is set.  
The transplanting and watering attachment follows the fertilizer placement  
machine, planting the plants midway between the two bands of fertilizer.  
This machine is very accurate, and in examining cabbage, sweet potato and  
tomato plants planted by this machine, it was found that no part of the  
root system came in contact with the fertilizer. There is another impor-  
tant element in favor of applying the fertilizer in this way. Should a  
period of dry weather follow the transplanting operation, the fertilizer  
placed in the soil to a depth of from three to five inches will be more  
readily available to the plants than if applied to the surface soil, due  
to the fact that the soil at this depth contains more moisture and is of  
a more uniform temperature."

Improvement                      F. W. Bennett, University of Georgia, author of  
of Butter                      "Improvement of Southern Butter" in Southern Dairy Products  
   Journal (July) says in part: "The Federal Food and Drug  
Administration and the cooperating state agencies, through their inspec-  
tion, have gotten splendid results by eliminating cream and butter unfit  
for consumption. The sediment tests made by them and the creameries have  
been effective because their results are so readily understood by the pro-  
ducers. While the elimination of the poorest cream and butter is com-  
mendable--it falls short of the highest goal. We feel that ultimately  
it must be supplemented by cream grading and the payment of premiums for  
reaching higher standards. If uniform specifications for grades can be  
agreed upon, they should be advantageous. If this is not feasible any  
sound systems of grading, even though their details vary considerably,  
should offer inducement for better care of cream which nothing else can  
do."

Electrical                      What electrical appliances would you buy first if  
Appliances                      your home were wired for electricity tomorrow? The aver-  
   age farmer would buy a radio. Skipping over electric  
washing machines and refrigerators, Mrs. Average Farmer next would buy  
an electric iron. In third place comes the electric washing machine to  
replace the old back-breaking tub, and fourth is the electric refrigerator.  
These facts were made public in a survey of the Rural Electrification  
Administration. Next in the order of appliances the farmer buys when  
electricity is brought to his home are electric toasters, water pumps,  
vacuum cleaners, hot plates, small motors and lighting equipment for  
poultry houses. The average farmer spends about \$180 for appliances  
during the first few months he has electricity, the report states. (Wash-  
ington Star.)



Beavers  
in Canada

"Experiences in Canada's National Parks have demonstrated that the beaver, long regarded as an animal which very definitely preferred his own company to that of human beings, is really more sociable with man than has been supposed," says an editorial in the August Outdoorsman (formerly Hunter-Trader-Trapper). "The beaver, like the other so-called 'wild' animals of Canada, responds to the human friendliness which he finds in the national parks. He is an intelligent animal, very quick to sense danger, but once convinced that humans mean him no harm, he proceeds about his business. However, this fraternal feeling is not confined solely to the parks. Now comes word from Red Deer, Alberta, that beaver, operating in Waskasoo Creek, have actually invaded the city limits...In preserving him and bringing his true qualities to public recognition, the national parks have done a national service."

A.M.A. on  
Food and  
Drug Act

The Journal of the American Medical Association (July 23) contains a 2-page editorial on the new food and drug act. It says in part: "The most noteworthy advance made by the new Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act in the field of drug control has reference to the introduction of new drugs. The act forbids the introduction, or the delivery for introduction, into interstate or foreign commerce of any new drug, unless an application to the Secretary of Agriculture has become effective. The scope of this prohibition is manifest when it is recalled that the term 'drug' is defined by the act to mean all articles intended for the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease, except instruments, apparatus and contrivances intended for such purposes, and that the term 'new drug' is defined by the act to include any drug, not heretofore subject to the Food and Drugs Act of 1906, which is not generally recognized among experts, qualified by scientific training and experience to evaluate the safety of drugs, under the conditions suggested on the label. The Secretary is authorized, however, to exempt from this prohibition drugs intended solely for investigational use by experts qualified by scientific training and experience. Except as authorized with reference to new drugs, the new act leaves to private initiative the fixing of drug standards, as it was under the Food and Drugs Act of 1906, but it adds the American Institute of Homeopathy to the corporations that may engage in such activities. It authorizes, too, all the corporations empowered to fix drug standards to change them at pleasure, by means of supplements to the recognized books of standards, the U. S. Pharmacopeia, the Homeopathic Pharmacopeia of the United States and the National Formulary. The new act specifically provides, however, that it shall not be construed as in any way affecting the virus, serum and toxin act of July 1, 1902, which places the manufacture and distribution of viruses, serums, toxins and analogous products under the control of the United States Public Health Service..."

World Poultry  
Methods

An editorial note in the U. S. Egg & Poultry Magazine (August) says: "We are reproducing this month a summary of a report on the breeding of poultry in the Czechoslovak Republic, recently issued by the Czechoslovak Academy of Agriculture. This is the third in a series of articles we have published on poultry production in various European countries--the first appeared in the June magazine and dealt with Hungarian poultry; the second, which appeared in the July magazine, described the progress Russia had made in improving egg production and reducing poultry mortality. Since all of our readers who can do so will attend the Seventh World's Poultry Congress and Exposition at Cleveland next year, it will be of value to them to learn something in advance about the poultry and egg industry in overseas countries."

Tobacco  
Outlook

Prospects for tobacco growers during the marketing year for their 1938 crops are rather favorable, though less so than in the 1937-38 season, says the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Total acreage of tobacco on July 1 was estimated by the Bureau as 1,680,800 acres, or 2.9 percent less than the 1937 harvested acreage. Total production was indicated at nearly 4 percent smaller than the 1937 crop. In general, however, stocks are estimated to be heavier than a year ago, and slightly larger supplies are in prospect for the 1938-39 marketing year.

Ayrshire Herd  
Sale Records

Several records were shattered in the recent Ayrshire sale of the noted Penshurst Ayrshire herd, as 181 head sold for an average of \$308.06 per head. The total returns of \$55,760 are the largest made in any Ayrshire sale since 1919. The top price of \$2,850 for the three-year-old bull, Penshurst Magnet, is the highest for any Ayrshire bull that has been sold at auction since 1919. A representative crowd of Ayrshire breeders who filled the sale tent seemed to be primarily interested in acquiring the blood of the noted proved sire, Penshurst Man O'War, and as a consequence, his descendants outsold all other lines of breeding, including a number of imported cattle. <sup>age of 11 years, 23 daughters of Man O'War brought an average</sup> Selling at an average of \$366.74, which probably stands as a record for an equal number of aged matrons. The top of this group was the ten-year-old, Penshurst Thias, that brought \$750. (Hoard's Dairyman, July 25.)

Shield for  
Farm Plows

Need for some device or attachment for plows which would enable farmers to completely plow under stalks and other crop waste has long been recognized in the more humid sections, such as eastern Kansas and Missouri. The Purdue plow trash shield is a result of research conducted in Indiana by the department of agriculture. A small charge is made by the Purdue station in Indiana to cover cost of the blue-prints. (Kansas Farmer, July 16.)



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Vol. LXX, No. 22

Section 1

August 2, 1938

COMMODITY COUNSELORS      The presidents of six leading commodity exchanges and officials of the Department of Agriculture began studying yesterday methods of protecting the public from alleged frauds by so-called "commodity counselors". These "commodity counselors" were charged by Secretary Wallace with encouraging persons of limited means to speculate in the futuresmarkets to their loss, and with keeping books in a manner which prevented actual losses from becoming known to clients. The principal suggestions made revolved around new accounting rules proposed by exchanges which would require commission houses operating on a discretionary basis to publish monthly statements of net profits and losses, and requiring that all accounts be "made up" so that no account would have opposite positions in the same future. (New York Times.)

U.S. COTTON CARRYOVER      The 1937-38 world carryover of United States cotton, including linters, was put yesterday at the high record of 13,803,000 bales in the annual report of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange. The carryover last year was 6,108,000 bales. Henry Plauche, secretary of the exchange, estimated consumption of United States cotton, including linters, at 12,162,000 bales compared with 14,326,000 last year. Exports were put at 5,953,872 bales, compared with 5,776,000. (Associated Press.)

CHICAGO GRAIN DELIVERIES      Hedging pressure and fairly general liquidation carried all deliveries of wheat, corn, oats and rye to new low levels for the season yesterday. All except corn sold at the lowest levels on the Board of Trade at Chicago since 1922. Net losses of  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $\frac{7}{8}$  cent a bushel were shown on wheat while corn was  $1\frac{1}{8}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents lower. Oats lost  $\frac{3}{8}$  to  $\frac{5}{8}$  cent and rye 1 to  $1\frac{3}{8}$  cents. Soybeans were dull and 1 to  $1\frac{1}{8}$  cents lower. (New York Times.)

EDITOR OF TREATIES      Abolition of the State Department's Office of Historical Adviser and the creation of a new post of Editor of the Treaties was announced by Secretary Hull yesterday. Dr. Hunter Miller, former Historical Adviser of the department, was designated head of the newly created treaties office. Charged with the editing and compilation of the department's publication, Treaties and Other International Acts of the United States, Dr. Miller also will advise and recommend to the Secretary on historical and constitutional matters. (Press)



New Soil  
Sterilizer

"A simple but effective hot-water heater which overcomes the objection to hot water as a soil sterilizer and at the same time does the job at about one half the cost of the usual steam sterilization," says F. J. Keilholz, extension editor, University of Illinois, in Country Gentleman (August), "has been perfected by C. C. Compton, entomologist of the Illinois State Natural History Survey, co-operating with the division of floriculture, Illinois College of Agriculture. Such pests as nematodes, white grubs, cutworms, sowbugs, millipeds, symphyllids and mites are readily controlled by the new method. Tests show that sweet peas, snapdragons, roses and tomatoes grown in three to eight year old soil have given higher yields than the same crops in old soil untreated or in new soil. However, the hot-water method probably is not as effective as a steam sterilization for the control of some soil-borne diseases. The newly developed heater is nothing more than an apparatus for mixing live steam with cold water and injecting the mixture into the soil. First, the cold water flows around a pipe carrying the steam and is finally mixed with the live steam before entering the outlet pipe. The heater is about twelve feet long. An injector made of one-inch pipe puts the hot water into the soil...Free plans and directions are available so that any greenhouse operator can build the heater and the injector. The new heater is proving popular with Illinois growers who are using it and also is attracting attention from other states."

Nitrogen  
for Calves

Practical results of great importance to the live-stock industry may come from experiments at the University of Wisconsin, in which it has been shown that calves can gain weight on forms of nitrogen not supposed hitherto to be digestible and assimilable by animals, says a Science Service report from Madison. The work was done by Prof. E. B. Hart, H. J. Deobald, and Dr. G. Bohstedt. They used four male calves. One of the animals was kept on a low-protein ration, as a control. Another was used as a second control, receiving a conventional ration of milk protein in addition to the low-protein ration. The other two received supplementary diets of simple nitrogen salts, the first getting ammonium bicarbonate and the second urea. These are the salts supposed to be of no value as stock feed. Yet the animals gained weight on them, 105 and 110 pounds respectively, in 14 weeks. This was between the small gain of 65 pounds shown by the low-protein calf and the high gain of 126 pounds by the calf receiving the milk protein. What caused this gain is a physiological riddle which the three experimenters do not at present answer. It will be necessary to carry on more extensive feeding trials before the full economic possibilities of this research can be developed.

British  
Poultry

The July 9 issue of The Field (London) contains an account of the work of the (British) National Poultry Institute, by Charles Crowther, Director of the Institute, Harper Adams Agricultural College. This is the ninth of a series of articles on education and research.



**Hull Defends Trade Pacts** Charges that the Administration's reciprocal trade agreement program is detrimental to the interests of American farmers were denounced by Secretary Hull in a letter to Senator Pope of Idaho. The statement of the Secretary of State was made in reply to an inquiry concerning an editorial which appeared in the Idaho Farmer of May 26. The editorial, which told of an excess of agricultural imports over agricultural exports in 1937 as an illustration of "how the American farmer is being sold down the river by the trade agreement program," was characterized by Secretary Hull as being without "the slightest factual foundation." In what Secretary Hull described as "an amazing statistical performance," the editorial subtracted 1937 agricultural exports from agricultural imports and described the excess of imports as "net loss" to the American farmer. He pointed out that imports of agricultural products were valued at \$1,582,000,000, not \$2,000,000,000 as the editorial said; and the exports at \$795,000,000, not \$1,000,000,000 as stated by the editorial. In outlining his objections to the editorial, Secretary Hull wrote; in part as follows: "We have always imported, and it is essential that we continue to import, vast quantities of products coming under the broad heading 'agricultural' which we either do not produce at all in this country or which we cannot produce in sufficient quantities at a reasonable cost to meet our domestic requirements. At the same time, however, we normally export vast quantities of agricultural products of a type for the production of which our resources are best adapted. That the total imports of the first of these broad categories of items happens to exceed the total exports of the items in the second is a matter of no meaning or consequence at all. For the entire year (1937) our total imports of agricultural products of any and all descriptions amounted to a little more than 1.5 billion dollars (\$1,581,000,000). Of these imports, 711 millions (nearly half) consisted of major types of agricultural products of a kind not produced in the United States...." (New York Times.)

**Australian Trade Balance** A Canberra report to the New York Times says the need for measures to stimulate the Australian Commonwealth's foreign trade is urgent. The Australian Ministers emphasized this in the recent fruitless London negotiations. That need is illustrated by the marked retrogression in Australia's foreign trade for the year that ended June 30, compared with 1936-37. With all foreign countries there was a favorable trade balance of only 3,447,000 pounds (sterling) compared with 16,909,000 pounds in the previous year. With the United States there is an adverse balance of 9,057,000 pounds compared to a favorable one of 2,033,000 last year.

**Farm Price Index Up** The Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports that local market prices of all farm products except grains had advanced an average of 3 percent between mid-June and mid-July. The general level of farm prices on July 15 was about 95 percent of the pre-war level, the bureau said. Prices paid by farmers in mid-July were estimated at 123 percent of the pre-war level, or 1 percent less than a month ago. The bureau said meat animal prices led the advance during the last month. (Associated Press.)



**Farm Living Conditions**            The Department of Commerce has reported indications that farm living conditions have improved materially since 1930. It said a 1938 census survey indicated substantial increases in the number of farm dwellings lighted by electricity, provided with bathrooms and having radios. The study, which included about 3,000 farms in selected counties of forty States, was made by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates of the Department of Agriculture and the Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce. It was part of the preliminary study in preparation for the coming 1940 census of agriculture. It showed that the number of farm tractors in use had increased "phenomenally" and that the number of motor trucks and automobiles was up substantially. The proportion of farms with telephones showed no appreciable change. (Associated Press.)

**Cotton Freight Reduction**        The Interstate Commerce Commission has ordered freight reductions approximating 25 percent on cotton shipped from Oklahoma to New Orleans. The New Orleans Cotton Exchange and other port and commercial interests of New Orleans had complained that the old rates were too high. Tariff experts of the I.C.C. said New Orleans did not have rates on a carload basis on cotton from Oklahoma, the shipments taking the full any-quantity rate. The effect of the order, officials said, would be to give New Orleans rates approximating 75 percent of the any-quantity rates. (Associated Press.)

**Crop Testing Programs**        Following the lead of Kansas, which two years ago set up a crop improvement organization, and of Canada, which seven years ago adopted a plan for the production of better wheat, the grain interests of Nebraska and Oklahoma have embarked on similar programs. The Nebraska organization has been formed through the co-operation of representatives of the Omaha Grain Exchange, College of Agriculture, the Nebraska Crop Growers Association, the Agricultural Committee of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, and others. The first activity of the organization will be an expanded wheat testing program. In co-operation with the agricultural college, county agents and the elevator operators, samples of wheat are being collected from 100 different farmers in each of 21 counties throughout the state. Wheat from each of these 100 farmers will be planted in each county along with the recommended varieties. In addition, a master test plot containing the 2,100 samples of wheat will be planted at the agricultural college at Lincoln. This test should give a cross section of the wheats of Nebraska, and likewise the county tests should give a cross section of the wheats in the county. Next summer meetings will be held at each of these test plots and the public will be invited. Beginning in the season of 1938-39, the crop testing plan will be adopted by Oklahoma. The adoption of the plan in Oklahoma has been made possible by a co-operative agreement between the Enid Board of Trade, the Oklahoma Millers Association, Union Equity Co-operative Exchange, Oklahoma Bankers Association, Oklahoma Crop Improvement Association, Extension Division, Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, and the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station. (Northwestern Miller, July 27.)



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Vol. LXX, No. 23

Section 1

August 3, 1938

## CHEMICAL ELEMENTS

A Paris report by the Associated Press says the noted physicist, Jean Perrin, informed the French Academy of Science yesterday that his collaborators had discovered what was believed to be the ninety-third chemical element--a substance heavier than uranium. The scientist, who is president of the Academy, said the element had been found in stable form in minerals containing uranium, notably pitchblend. By using a powerful spectroscope, he said, the scientists had distinguished four new spectral lines which were believed to have been caused by the presence of transuranium, a nucleus whose atom would contain ninety-three positive charges.

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## COSMETIC AGREEMENT

Completion of an agreement on cosmetic advertising and labeling under the Wheeler-Lea Act has been reached between the Toilet Goods Association and the National Retail Dry Goods Association, it was learned yesterday. H. Gregory Thomas, head of the board of standards of the Toilet Goods Association, said both groups believe that under the provisions of the Wheeler-Lea amendment to the Federal Trade Commission Act, and under the Copeland Act, certain sections of which are immediately effective, "members should be given some guidance in the acceptance of advertising copy." (New York Times.)

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## WHEAT, CORN AT NEW LOW

All deliveries of wheat and the deferred futures of corn sold at new low levels for the season in the early trading on the Chicago Board of Trade yesterday, but there was no material pressure and wheat rallied 1 cent a bushel from the inside figures and closed 1/4 cent higher to 3/8 cent lower. Corn was unchanged to 1/8 cent higher. (New York Times.)

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## FINANCING OF COTTON

The Export-Import Bank, which is financed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, has within the last year assisted financially to the extent of approximately \$6,000,000 in the exporting of cotton to Italy, Warren Lee Pierson, president, said. He said that in the cotton year ended on July 31 the bank loaned between \$5,000,000 and \$6,000,000 for exports, about half of which was for shipments to Italy. In addition the bank has loaned an additional \$3,600,000 for cotton shipments to Italy, he said. The cotton is purchased by organized spinners in Italy and financed through Italian banks. (New York Times.)

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Farm-City  
Problems

"I recently spent two interesting days in Minnesota where I listened to leading farmers and manufacturers discuss their common problems," says Kirk Fox, editor of Successful Farming, in the August issue. "This is part of a most excellent program being developed by the Agricultural Committee of the National Association of Manufacturers to understand farm problems better. The packers and implement-manufacturers drew first fire, but chief concern of the farmers was 'sticky' prices and wages. Why, they wanted to know, should manufacturers, in the face of a heavy decline in business, reduce output, maintain prices, and turn off labor; and why should labor stubbornly cling to wage scales out of line with other groups. While this is happening, the farmer maintains production and employment and takes a deep price cut. Certainly the two systems can't exist side by side if the farmer is to survive in his present state. 'Perhaps in the long run the solution of the problem (farm) will be found fully as much in the city as on the farm,' conclude economists at the Ohio State University. So long as agriculture is largely dependent on the domestic market for its outlet, it is vitally concerned with the income of the city consumer. Sales make jobs, and jobs make better markets for foods farmers produce. We are all tied together, but few realize it."

Ohio Poultry,  
Egg Grading

"...The Federal-Stage egg and poultry grading service in Ohio has been used long enough to definitely prove to the producers, retailers and consumers of eggs that we must continue to cooperate and go forward with this program," says Ray C. Wiseman, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in the U. S. Egg & Poultry Magazine (August). "...At the present time the bulk of Ohio government graded eggs is sold in case lots, although there are a few organizations packing most of their U. S. Specials, U. S. Extras and U. S. Standards in one-dozen cartons for the retail trade...The volume of eggs sold in this manner has increased each year since it was started. The volume sold in 1935 amounted to 750,000 dozens. This volume increased 60 percent in 1936 with 1,202,730 dozens sold. In 1937 there was a total volume of 1,305,300 dozens sold (109 carloads), an increase of 8.5 percent over 1936. Live poultry grading was started with two organizations in 1937 and has proven very satisfactory to both producers and purchasers. The volume of live poultry government graded during 1937 was 5,629 coops or a net weight of 331,162 pounds, which graded 56.1 percent U. S. Grade A, 31 percent U. S. Grade B, 3.9 percent U. S. Grade C, 6.5 percent Mixed Grades and 0.9 percent Rejects. Turkeys, ducks and geese amounted to 1.6 percent of the total graded..."

## Dr. Mohler

The August Country Home contains an article on Dr. Mohler, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry-- "America's Barnyard Dictator," by Frank J. Taylor. A note says: "The dramatic story of a good tyrant who has power of life and death over every animal on your farm."



Conservation Legislation      "Several features of flood control legislation passed by the Seventy-fifth Congress are of special interest to conservationists," says an editorial in American Forests (August). "One is an appropriation of \$7,000,000 for the Department of Agriculture to engage in upstream flood control projects; another, abandonment of the principle of the organic flood control act of 1936 that States and local communities must share the costs of control works with the Federal Government. And there is the provision for the establishment by the Weather Bureau of a current information service on precipitation and flood warnings in cooperation with the Army Engineers. Also for the first time funds are authorized for examinations and surveys of flood control projects by the Federal Power Commission to determine power potentialities...Of immediate moment is the fact that Congress for the first time has made a direct and sizeable appropriation for surveys and the prosecution by the Department of Agriculture of works and measures for run-off and waterflow retardation and soil erosion prevention on the watersheds of waterways of flood control projects which have been authorized for construction by the Army Engineers...These surveys and measures are to be carried out by the Department of Agriculture in accordance with the declared policy of Congress that federal investigations and improvements of rivers for flood control shall be under the War Department and federal investigations of watersheds shall be under the Department of Agriculture..."

F.T.C. Food-Drug Consultant      The U. S. Public Health Service has assigned one of its physicians to the Federal Trade Commission to act as the commission's technical consultant in passing on medical and other claims made in advertising of food, drug and cosmetic products under the Wheeler-Lea Act, says a Washington report in Editor & Publisher (July 30). The appointee is Dr. K. E. Miller, whose official rank is surgeon. He is 52 years old and has been with the PHS since 1924, serving in various posts in the United States, but since 1936 has been in Washington in the division of domestic quarantine. In the past the FTC has had no technical consultant, but has referred specific questions to technicians of the USPHS, the Food and Drug Administration and the National Bureau of Standards. Adoption of the Wheeler-Lea Act has made a technician essential to the FTC's work, inasmuch as that law prohibits the dissemination of false and misleading advertisements of foods, drugs, cosmetics, and devices. Questions necessarily arise in many cases as to the validity of therapeutic claims which are made in ads and the services of a physician and of laboratory technicians are required before the commission can determine whether the claims made violate the law.

Rural Sales      The seasonally adjusted index of general merchandise sales in small towns and rural areas increased 2.3 points in June, compared with May, the Department of Commerce reports. While there was a decline from one month to another, as is normal, it was so much less than normal that the losses recorded in May were regained. (Press.)



**Utah Wildlife Restoration**      The first project under the new Federal-State co-operative program for wildlife restoration--plans by the Utah Department of Fish and Game for improving the Weber River delta area to reduce waterfowl losses from western duck sickness--has been approved by Dr. Gabrielson, Chief of the Biological Survey. Construction of a 5-mile dike to impound fresh water from the Weber River for waterfowl and to keep the heavy concentrations of salt in the Great Salt Lake from entering the area will get under way shortly. Federal funds amounting to \$7,500 and \$2,500 from the State will be available this year for building the dike and necessary water control structures. The participating State provides funds equal to one third of the Federal allotment. Unskilled labor for the project will be supplied by the C.C.C.

**Washington Inland Cargo**      "The first ocean-going cargo carrier on July 9 entered The Dalles (Washington) harbor, 200 miles inland," says the Washington Farmer (July 21). "...The freighter brought a cargo of mixed freight, mostly from San Francisco and other California ports...Probably the largest single item of cargo was over 1,000,000 pounds of sugar...What of the future? The answer lies largely in the future provisions for favorable joint rail and water rates, or water and truck rates, which will make it more advantageous for shippers to use The Dalles as an assembling point for outgoing cargo and a distributing point for inbound commodities than to use existing ports nearer the ocean. A survey made by Dr. W. H. Dreesen, agricultural economist at the Oregon Experiment Station, and which was a determining factor in convincing the army engineers that sea locks were necessary at Bonneville, has already shown conclusively that ample potential tonnage is available from the inland Empire to support sea-going ship schedules."

**Weather Cycles**      Plentiful rains so far this year, following those of 1937, suggest that the recent long drought cycle has spent itself and that the years immediately ahead may bring more adequate rainfall to the United States, says J. B. Kincer of the Weather Bureau. The generally dry cycle that lasted from 1930 through 1936, Mr. Kincer points out, was the first extended drought period after the one that lasted from about 1886 through 1895. Following that period of deficient moisture came a series of years--1896 through 1909--when rainfall was comparatively abundant. The first half of 1938 was outstanding for its plentiful precipitation. About 80 percent of the United States had more than normal rainfall. The country as a whole averaged 12 percent above normal.

**U.S.Exports**      The United States replaced Great Britain as the chief to Argentina supplier of Argentina's imports in the first half of this year, according to official statistics from Buenos Aires. At the end of June the United States had supplied 19.2 percent of Argentina's imports, compared with Great Britain's 18.8 percent. At the same date last year the United States' share was 16.3 percent and Britain's was 19.8 percent. In the six months the tariff value of imports from the United States was 134,987,000 pesos, compared with 108,221,000 pesos in the corresponding period last year. The value of imports from Great Britain in the same period was 131,981,000 pesos, compared with 131,738,000 pesos last year. (Press.)



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Section 1

August 4, 1938

## KANSAS CITY RATE CASE

A delay in the controversial Kansas City stockyards case was refused by Justice Butler of the Supreme Court yesterday after counsel for livestock commission men had sought a stay in the proceedings and the government resisted the effort. The point was whether the commission men could counteract the order by Secretary Wallace to file, by August 15, exceptions to proposed findings of fact, issued after the Supreme Court ruled on the original case and then refused a rehearing. Justice Butler said that the period provided by Secretary Wallace was sufficient time to file the replies to the proposed findings. (New York Times.)

## TVA FARM PROGRAMS

"In the five years of its existence, the Tennessee Valley Authority has paid \$1,700,000 to land-grant colleges in eleven states in return for their cooperation in its fertilizer and soil conservation demonstration programs, according to testimony yesterday before the Congressional Investigating Committee," reports Russell B. Porter in a Knoxville dispatch to the New York Times. "In addition, it has spent \$880,000 on experiments in new agricultural industries in an effort to educate farmers of the valley states on how to increase their cash incomes...Representative Charles Wolverton, of New Jersey, criticized these expenditures of public funds..."

## N.Y. COTTON AT NEW LOW

Prices on the New York Cotton Exchange drifted into new low territory again yesterday and it was not until the December touched 8 1/2 cents a pound that the market developed resistance. The close was 3 to 5 points lower. The average guess of seventy-six exchange members for a crop of 11,380,000 bales reflected a general disposition to look for a government figure in excess of last season's world consumption of cotton grown in the United States. (New York Times.)

## CHILE RESTRICTS WHEAT IMPORTS

The Chilean Government has passed a decree forbidding the importation of wheat into the country except with the authorization of the Chilean Agricultural Board, the Commerce Department reported yesterday. The decree is believed due to increasing imports from Argentina at lower prices than the domestic level.

Pulpwood in  
the South

G. H. Lentz, of the Forest Service, is author of "The Farmer's Side of the Pulpwood Problem in the South," in Southern Lumberman (August 1). He says in part: "An intensive educational program is needed to teach farmers and landowners how to handle their timberlands and how to obtain maximum returns per acre. Cuttings should be made on an integrated use basis with the timber being sold for the use to which it is best suited. Saw timber should not be sold for pulpwood unless the prices paid are comparable. Pulpwood sales should be made on a per cord or unit basis of wood cut. The stands to be cut should be marked prior to cutting. Foresters or timber estimators are needed who can render service to the small timberland owners at a cost commensurate with the values involved. There is a definite place in the southern pulpwood program for pulpwood cut from farm woodlands. The industry has recognized this fact. Steps should be taken by the industry to see that the mills are not deprived of this source of wood. Although pulpwood can be grown on fairly short rotations, it may be much more desirable for the farm woodland owner so to handle his forest as to produce other products as well. In the naval stores belt, for example, greater returns per acre can be obtained by combining turpentine with pulpwood, pole, piles, and sawlog cutting. In other portions of the region pulpwood may well be produced as an intermediate crop on short rotations, with saw timber as the final crop...The educational program needed may well be carried on by the various state and federal forestry agencies with assistance from the industry. The various state foresters and extension foresters in the South have made a beginning."

Cold Storage  
Locker Study

The rapid expansion in the use of refrigerated locker plants is one of the outstanding recent developments in the field of food distribution and storage, L. B. Mann reports in a study for the Farm Credit Administration. Mr. Mann points out that this development has been fostered largely in rural communities by farmers and townspeople. Approximately 2,500 plants containing 850,000 lockers, each of which has an annual storage volume of 500 pounds or more, are now in operation, Mr. Mann estimates. New plants are being established at a rate of about 50 a month. Nearly all sections of the country now have some of these plants, although the greatest number are found in the western and midwestern states. Farmers, and in some cases, townspeople, rent lockers at from \$10 to \$12 a year. Some locker plants give what may be called "limited" service and others "complete" service. The limited-service plants provide cold storage service only. Complete-service plants resemble small, modern packing plants which include butchering for the patron either on the farm or at the plant, chilling, cutting, wrapping, grinding, sharp-freezing, curing, smoking, lard rendering, and cold storage of meat, as well as the freezing and storing of fruits and vegetables. The possible savings which may be effected through the use of a locker by the average sized family of 4 or 5 persons ranges from \$30 to \$60 a year.



**Fire Fighting:** Spurred by the recent fires out West, Robert Fechner, director of the CCC, has announced completion of a nationwide program calling for intensive training of CCC enrollees in forest fire-fighting methods and technique, personal safety while fighting fires and discipline on the fighting line. "All of these points are of major importance, not only in increasing efficiency of fire-fighting activities but also in guarding against injury to the enrollees themselves," said Mr. Fechner. "The decision to require forest fire fighting training this year in all camps in or adjacent to timbered areas was prompted by past experience, which shows that each year CCC enrollees are called upon to spend approximately 1,000,000 man-days fighting fires that develop in national, State and private forests and in national and State parks." (American Lumberman, July 30.)

**Grain Grading BAE Schools:** "The large attendance at the recent grain grading schools and the barley conference at Minneapolis served to emphasize the growing interest of grain dealers in the accurate judging of grain," says Grain & Feed Journals (July 27). "...Not only are country dealers judging their purchases more accurately, but they are discriminating sharply against loads of mixed varieties and new crop improvement associations are being organized throughout the land for the prime purpose of encouraging the planting of pure varieties of grain so as to increase the value of each station's shipments...The close cooperation of the country dealer with his farmer patrons in the selection and treatment of seed is sure to bring about more profitable returns for both shipper and grower. The active interest in the well attended conference and the grading schools are but the beginning of the intelligent approach to the production of choice varieties, larger yields and a more profitable business for both growers and dealers."

**Glass Kitchen Laboratory:** "The nearest approach to the housewife's dream of a self-cleaning kitchen is a kitchen laboratory opened recently in New York City," says Business Week (July 30), "in which everything possible, including the wall surface, is made of glass. The kitchen is to be a center for research in glass-packaged foods, a practical testing ground for glass container design and a place where recipes can be developed for products put up by the ten thousand food packers who use glass containers to carry their wares to market."

**Historical Park Land:** Acquisition of 750 acres of additional land near Yorktown, Virginia, to enable preservation of the entire area of the Yorktown siege which ended the Revolutionary War, will be possible under legislation enacted at the last session of Congress. To be added to Colonial National Historical Park are Glass House Point, and the Hook. A new parkway will run through Williamsburg and south along the James River to Jamestown. Also in the Interior Department program under a recent measure approved by President Roosevelt are further steps toward establishment of Isle Royale National Park in Michigan. (Press.)



State Owned  
Stallions

"The Department of Agriculture at Quebec is doing a splendid service for horse breeders of that Province; something that our states might well emulate," says an editorial in Southern Planter (August). "Where groups of farmers band together and agree to use a stallion, the Quebec Department of Agriculture will make a loan, without interest, up to 75 percent of the purchase price of the animal. One man is designated to keep the stallion and pay off the loan from service fees, but all have a responsibility in seeing that the horse is put to good use. It is an easy purchase plan and insures the best breeding stock. The plan has much to commend it to our Southern States that are lagging in raising their own workstock..."

A.A.A.S. Youth  
Memberships

Girl and boy science leaders throughout the nation will be presented honorary junior memberships in the American Association for the Advancement of Science each year upon nomination of academies of science affiliated with that organization, says a Science Service report. Each of the affiliated academies will nominate both a boy and girl. Where the youthful scientists have been organized into junior science academies, they will be chosen from their memberships. Otherwise they will be selected from junior science clubs, such as are found in many high schools. The boys and girls chosen for honorary junior membership will be given privileges in the A.A.A.S. for a year and will receive the Science News Letter.

Poultry  
Congress

Cordial response to plans for the Seventh World's Poultry Congress and Exposition to be held at Cleveland, Ohio, July 28 to August 7, 1939, is reported by W. D. Termohlen and Prof. James E. Rice who have returned from trips abroad in the interest of the Congress. At least 30 nations have promised to send official delegates. About 20 countries expect to send exhibits of live birds and nearly as many will have educational exhibits in the exposition. Mr. Termohlen, chief of the Poultry Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and Secretary General of the Congress, returned from a tour that included Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Italy, Switzerland, France, Belgium, Holland, and England and reports active plans for representation in these countries. Prof. Rice, General Chairman of the Congress, returned from a South American trip with assurance that there will be delegations from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad, Uruguay, and Venezuela. J. Clyde Marquis, American Resident Delegate to the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, is visiting other European countries which Mr. Termohlen was unable to include on his tour. Organization is under way in several countries in Asia, Africa, Australia, and New Zealand.



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXX, No. 25

Section 1

August 5, 1938

## WHEAT IN CANADA

Western farmers are assured of a price for their 1938 wheat on the basis of 80 cents a bushel for No. 1 Northern wheat, delivered at Fort William, says an Ottawa report by the Canadian Press. That is the minimum fixed price the Canadian Wheat Board is authorized to pay for deliveries from the crop now ripening. Prime Minister MacKenzie King announced the price yesterday and said it had been recommended by the Wheat Board and approved by the government. Canadian wheat will continue to be offered for sale at world prices and there will be no attempt to hoard or seek a monopoly.

High temperatures without needed rains generally in the Prairie Provinces of Canada have lowered crop prospects over much of Saskatchewan and in parts of Alberta, although weather conditions have tended to retard the development of rust infestation prevalent in Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan, the Bank of Montreal says in its crop report. In Quebec ideal growing conditions have prevailed. In Ontario frequent showers and warm weather have been beneficial to corn, roots and pastures, while harvesting of grain is well advanced and generally yields and quality continue above average. (Press.)

## TRADE UNDER AGREEMENTS

United States exports to sixteen countries with which reciprocal trade agreements have been made increased in the last fiscal year 66.2 percent over the average annual exports for the 1934-35 pre-agreement period, the Department of Commerce announced yesterday. In the same period, however, imports from the sixteen countries increased only 26.2 percent over the pre-agreement period. While admitting that other factors than the trade agreements entered into the picture, the department holds that the treaties have played a significant part in bringing about the trade gains. This is shown, it asserts, by the fact that while exports to the agreement countries were increased by 66.2 percent, total exports to non-agreement nations gained 44.2 percent. Import trade with the non-agreement countries was 2.3 percent higher for the last fiscal year than it was with the agreement nations. (New York Times.)

## BILLBOARD BAN IN N.J.

The New Jersey Tax Department, anticipating that millions of visitors to the New York World's Fair will use New Jersey highways, announced yesterday the closing of many roads to the erection of additional advertising billboards. (Press.)



Booklet on                      The Forest Products Division of the Department of  
Hardwoods                      Commerce has issued a booklet on "American Hardwoods and  
                                 Their Uses." This is in line with its current program of  
preparing a series of booklets on American woods and their uses. This new  
booklet, written in popular style with many interesting illustrations,  
will be of particular value to wholesale and retail lumbermen, building  
contractors, architects and wood-using industrialists. Teachers and  
students, farmers, home owners, and prospective home builders will find  
it an excellent source of practical and educational information. (Southern  
Lumberman, August 1.)

W. A. Sherman                  Wells A. Sherman, for the past 18 years in charge of  
Retires                      the fruit and vegetable work of the Bureau of Agricultural  
                                 Economics, retired on July 31. Mr. Sherman was in Federal  
service for nearly 43 years. He was in charge of the experimental work  
which led to establishing the market news service on farm products in  
1915, and was largely responsible for the development of this service.  
Sherman's work in organizing the nation-wide shipping-point inspection  
for fruits and vegetables is one of his outstanding accomplishments. The  
Produce Agency Act of 1927, the Standard Container Act of 1928, the  
Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act of 1930, and the Export Apple  
and Pear Act of 1933 were administered since their beginning under  
Mr. Sherman's direction.

Plant Growth                  Science Digest (September) says: "...William C.  
Substances                      Cooper of the U. S. Department of Agriculture has opened  
                                 new lines for investigation (of plant hormones) by re-  
porting a series of experiments which throw new light on the problem and  
indicate that the real root-forming substances are already in the plant  
and not in the treatment. Several chemicals are known to promote rooting.  
Cooper used indole-3-acetic acid, one of the first chemicals identified  
as a growth substance. He treated lemon cuttings--soaking the base of  
each cutting in a solution of the chemical--planted part of them, and got  
the anticipated response--more and stronger roots than from untreated  
cuttings. Part of his cuttings he did not plant. Instead he cut off the  
treated base sections and again treated the shortened cuttings. The  
second treatment did not stimulate nearly so much root formation as the  
first treatment. Doctor Cooper says that the probable explanation of  
these conflicting results is that the chemical treatment causes the down-  
ward transport of naturally occurring root-forming substances which are  
already in the plant and which are necessary for root formation. For con-  
venience in the discussion of these substances, they have been named  
rhizocaline...Cooper's experiments with various other plants indicate  
that plants which do not root readily when treated--Delicious apple cut-  
tings, for example--are lacking in rhizocaline. The chemical nature of  
rhizocaline has not been discovered."



**Mechanical Refrigeration** "Mechanical refrigeration, an innovation in farm household operation, is little used in the South and tends to centralize where farming areas are close enough to metropolitan power plants to be reached by their lines," says Ice and Refrigeration (August). "This trend is shown in a study of 16,774 non-relief farm families, scattered over the United States. Information on refrigerator ownership was collected as part of a far-reaching family-living study, covering a 12-month period in 1935-36, and directed by Dr. Louise Stanley, chief of the Bureau of Home Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Ice deliveries are not made to the majority of farm families, and the electric refrigerator often replaces some ice-less device for keeping food. It therefore may be an even greater boon to the farm family than to the city family accustomed to having ice refrigeration. The high record for mechanical refrigerators was reported for the California counties surveyed, where 51 percent of the farm households studied owned such equipment. In California electric power has been available to rural homes longer than in other regions. Thirty-five percent of the New Jersey truck-farming families owned mechanical refrigerators, and 31 percent of the part-time farmers in a special study in the vicinity of Portland, Oregon. All of the farm areas where more than a fourth of the families interviewed reported a gas or electric refrigerator were in the vicinity of large cities..."

**Pasteurization of Apple Juice** Two workers of the New York (Geneva) Experiment Station report in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry (August) on "Flash Pasteurization of Apple Juice." An abstract, which says, "It is believed that the method has great commercial possibilities," is as follows: "Apple juices prepared from tart or acid eastern apples can be flash-pasteurized and canned at 160° F. or higher. Holding pasteurization of 15 to 20 minutes results in the killing of yeast at 155° F. or higher. It is unnecessary to kill all microorganisms present in apple juice since the bacteria that survive the above temperatures cannot grow, and the surviving mold spores may be held in check by the absence of air. Pasteurization at temperatures above 175° F. for one minute imparts a slight cooked flavor to cloudy New York State apple juice. The presence of air in containers of pasteurized apple juice has a detrimental effect upon the juice. Preservatives such as sodium benzoate and sulfur dioxide in small amounts lower the effective temperature for holding pasteurization. Their effect is apparently more pronounced on the yeast than on the bacteria. Malic acid added to the apple juice aids the killing of bacteria. Canning of a deaerated and flash-pasteurized cloudy apple juice as described is a simple procedure by which a juice of far more and far better flavor is produced than by any preservation process now employed."

**Aluminum Shovels** Made of aluminum alloy, shovels recently offered on the market are non-corrosive and therefore sanitary, light and easy to keep clean. An added advantage is that of being non-sparking--a highly desirable quality where fire prevention is important. These shovels are built in seven different models of various sizes to suit different farm jobs. (Successful Farming, August.)



Sainfoin As Honey Plant "...Sainfoin, or esparcet, is a fine forage plant commonly grown by European farmers, which is also a splendid source of honey," says an editorial in the American Bee Journal (August). "Readers who have access to American Honey Plants will find sainfoin discussed at length in that book. Numerous efforts have been made to introduce sainfoin into this country but with little success. The fact that good reports come from it in the mild climate of British Columbia, indicates that the common strains are not hardy enough for our northern climate. In our search for new honey plants we have learned of a strain of sainfoin from Asia which is reported to stand more cold and more drouth than the common kinds. It is also reported as yielding more hay. It seems probable that the failures with sainfoin in this country may be from getting the tender varieties. The American Bee Journal would like to see a systematic effort to improve the bee pasture through finding better forage crops for American farms which are at the same time better honey plants."

La. Stock Prosperity "A recent farm bulletin reported that, although 'Louisiana's crop income greatly decreased this year in comparison with a year ago, the livestock income has nearly doubled'," says an editorial in the New Orleans Times-Picayune (July 27). "The federal figures place the decrease of crop income for the first five months of the present year at about \$7,000,000. Louisiana income from livestock and livestock products for that same period exceeded \$9,250,000, as compared with \$5,000,000 for the same five months of 1937. While the gain from livestock did not fully offset the loss in crop income, it proved a very present help and justified the expert appeals to Louisiana farmers to develop and expand the livestock branch of their farm program...The deficiency in livestock production in Louisiana has been one of the grave weaknesses of our farming program. Since state-wide eradication of the cattle tick, Louisiana farmers have increased their livestock production and improved its quality, as is proved by the fact that they nearly doubled their livestock income in the first five months of this year as compared with the same period of 1937. But they can profit greatly and permanently by further development of their livestock activities. For it is true here, as elsewhere over the country, that 'livestock is the keystone of farm prosperity.'"

Barley Crop Improvement The 1938 barley crop appears to be of better quality than the 1937 or 1936 crops, according to the Bureaus of Plant Industry and Agricultural Economics. There appears to be a fair amount of plump, mellow barley in most of the important spring barley areas. Cleaning the barley before marketing is desirable--where the grain lodged or where blight occurred--to remove small and light-weight blighted kernels. Care in handling the crop to prevent skinned kernels from threshing, storage damage from excess moisture and the mixing of blighted and sound barley, should result in an adequate supply of good quality barley.



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Vol. LXX, No. 26

Section 1

August 2, 1938

## WPA AIDS FARMERS

Inauguration of a permanent program of between-season employment for needy farmers has been announced by Harry L. Hopkins, Works Progress Administrator, as the first step of President Roosevelt's "frontal attack" on the South's inequality of income. Mr. Hopkins said he discussed with state and regional administrators of eleven Southern States "measures the WPA can take to further the President's purposes," after previously giving them authority to add a total of 200,000 persons to the WPA rolls pending the time when labor would be needed for picking cotton. "We intend to close out this employment in picking time and to open it up again when the harvest is over," Mr. Hopkins said, adding that thousands of southerners in rural areas were not earning an adequate income from agriculture. (A.P.)

## PATENT SYSTEM INVESTIGATION

America's 150-year-old patent system will be subjected to searching examination by the Department of Commerce in cooperation with the Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission in the "monopoly" investigation by the temporary national economic committee. It was decided that since the Commerce Department, Federal Trade Commission and Justice Department were the only three government agencies directly interested in the patent system, they should undertake the inquiry in this field. The patent system in the past few years has been under fire from many quarters. (New York Times.)

## U.S.-SOVIET TRADE PACT

Accompanied by a promise that the Soviet Union will purchase \$40,000,000 of American goods within the next 12 months, the trade agreement between the United States and the Soviet was renewed Saturday for another year. Identic notes, passing between Alexander C. Kirk, American charge d'affaires at Moscow, and Maxim Litvinoff, Commissar for Foreign Affairs of the Soviet Union, put the agreement into effect. Imports into the Soviet from the United States have been around \$40,000,000 for the last three "agreement years," the State Department stated, the first of these of these "agreement years" being 1935-36, when the Roosevelt-Litvinoff pact went into effect. Imports from the Soviet into the United States ranged between \$23,230,000 and \$17,561,000 during the three "agreement years." (New York Times.)

## FARM CO-OPS

Agricultural cooperative associations throughout the country are repaying their members more than \$25,000,000 annually, the Farm Credit Administration reported Saturday after a survey. The typical dividend-paying association has a membership of 200 to 300 farmers and has yielded dividends of \$6,000 to \$7,000 on an annual business. (Press.)



**Tree Research** "Research workers in tree crop culture of the Under the TVA Tennessee Valley Authority are making real progress," says an editorial in Southern Planter (August). "They are developing strains of forest trees--honey locust, oak, persimmon, berries and scores of others--adapted to the marginal regions of southern highlands that will produce sufficient quantities of feed to support an abundance of wildlife and domestic animals. Two strains of high producing honey locust have been found: one with seed pods so large that only 13 are required to make a pound, and containing 32 percent sugar; the other, a pod of 28 percent sugar, weighing 17 to the pound when bone dry. The beans are indigestible when eaten whole, but when ground, the meal analyzes 13 percent protein. The locust is a legume and will improve the nitrogen content of the soil. It will prevent erosion which is ravishing the wornout hillsides of the South. John W. Hershey, Forest Tree Crop Specialist, TVA....and his men have discovered a method of grafting the Oriental persimmon on native stocks to make it withstand our hard winters and yield human and livestock food from eroded claybanks. High-yielding mulberry trees that will feed the farm flock of chickens and herd of hogs three months in the year have been found, and are being propagated for experimental purposes. They have found white oak acorns high in sugar content and low in tannic acid which are desirable as mast for hogs and other stock. Some are as edible as Japanese chestnuts. Acorns of the swamp chestnut, sometimes called cow oak, weighing 36 to 40 per pound, have been discovered and are being developed for stock feed..."

**Marijuana Eradication** The Prairie Farmer (July 30) says editorially: "A few weeks ago we discussed the drug-weed marijuana and its dangers. Its deadly toll continues. Several men and young men have been convicted for transporting and selling it. Countless others have committed crimes while under its influence. Now the American Legion and the Boy Scouts in Indiana have declared they will do something about it. Under the direction of State Commander Michael Hurley, a state-wide campaign of eradication has been started. It will continue until September. Your part is to know whether or not this deadly weed grows on your farm..."

**Tile Silo** A tile-stave silo in which no cement is used where exposure to silage occurs is now offered to the public. The wall units are hard-burned tile between which redwood insulators are placed. Air cells in the tile units coupled with these insulators provide frost-resistant design. Door frames and doors are made of boiler-plate, copper-bearing steel. (Successful Farming, August.)

**Food, Drugs, Cosmetics** Business Week (July 30) comments on the speed with which the Food and Drug Administration "is going into action against dangerous cosmetics." The periodical also contains an item on the Federal Trade Commission's jurisdiction over advertising of food, drugs and cosmetics.



**Agricultural Cooperation** "Agricultural cooperators from almost every corner of the nation reaffirmed their belief in self-help as a dominant factor toward farm prosperity at the fourteenth annual session of the American Institute of Cooperation, held this summer at the State College of Washington and the University of Idaho," says Farm and Dairy (July 29) "...The warning of S. D. Sanders, cooperative bank commissioner of the Farm Credit Administration, against the current tendency 'to let the government do it,' was reiterated throughout the program. Control programs were viewed with varying degrees of approval, and although they were termed 'life savers' in many instances, their limitations in the face of continued surpluses was recognized...Chris L. Christensen, dean of the Wisconsin College of Agriculture, attacked present agricultural control programs. 'For centuries it was considered unethical, and in some instances unlawful, to forestall production of essential goods,' he said. 'But today that practice is elevated to a national virtue. For the first time in our history the resources of the government are devoted to reducing the supplies of the necessities of life--and at a time when one-third of the population is underfed, underclothed and underhoused.'...According to I. G. Davis, professor of agricultural economics at Connecticut State College, 'agricultural cooperation in New England, although successful in local and federated groups, is confronted by the spectre of arrested development as the result of dependance upon federal intervention, and the inability of many of the larger organizations to get together on matters of common interest.'..."

**Apple Storage Temperature** "Investigations by the Pomology Sub-section of the Iowa Experiment Station, since 1924, have indicated certain advantages in holding cold storage apples at a higher temperature than formerly recommended," says H. H. Plagge, of the Station, in Refrigerating Engineering (August). Reporting studies on Delicious and White Pippin apples, and on other winter and midwinter sorts, stored at 31-32 F. and 35-36 F., he draws the following conclusions: (1) Midwinter and late season varieties do not deteriorate too rapidly for marketing after removal from a storage temperature of 35-36 F.; (2) Samples of the same variety previously stored at 35-36 F. are more attractive in color, have better flavor and aroma and develop these earlier and at the same time usually retain them over as long a period as those given the lower temperature treatment; (3) When removed from storage toward the end of the marketing period, certain varieties such as Delicious, White Pippin and Ben Davis, from storage at 35-36 F., may scald and become somewhat mealy a few days earlier, but not before the time required for satisfactory marketing; (4) When protection from scald is provided by selection in picking for maturity and the use of oiled paper, scald need not be a factor in fruit stored at 35-36 F., either during storage or after removal."

**Food-Drug Law** The August issue of Food Industries contains an official digest of the provisions of the new food and drug law, and says: "On the whole it is a satisfactory law and its enforcement is known to be in good hands as long as Walter G. Campbell and Dr. Paul Dunbar continue in charge of the Food and Drug Administration."



**Foodstuff Preservation** Food Manufacture (London, July) reports that more information is now available concerning a new system for preserving foodstuffs for long periods. "This system was mentioned in the December, 1937, issue of Food Manufacture. It is a combination of quick freezing, storing and delivery to the consumer. The process consists in placing the foodstuff in a special latex skin bag in which, after sealing, the air is withdrawn so as to make an artificial film, which is held in place by positive adhesion no matter how irregular is the surface of the product to be treated. The latex skin is thin, resilient, and strong enough to withstand normal handling; it is also water, air and acid proof. Once coated, the foodstuff can be treated for quick freezing by the wet system by a low-temperature brine, liquid ammonia or alcohol, etc. Once frozen hard, it is kept in holding rooms at medium low temperature up to the time it is consumed. When thawing is effected by raising the temperature, all condensed water precipitates on the outside of the bag, leaving the product in exactly the same state as when it entered the bag. There occurs no loss in weight, shrinkage, change of colour or form, and the fat does not become rancid.

**Mexican 12% Export Duty** The law establishing a 12 percent duty on Mexican exports has been passed by the Mexican Senate. The measure is an attempt on the part of the government to take back a part of the amount which exporters gain by the drop in the peso from 3.60 pesos to the dollar to present level of 5. The government argues the 12 percent duty will only take 60 centavos of the depreciation profit, leaving the exporter still with an 80 centavo gain. (Wall Street Journal.)

**Watermelon Improvement** "There are probably some sections of the Southwest where local pride in the kind of watermelons produced would lead patriotic citizens to say: 'They're so good that they can't be improved upon,'" says an editorial in Farm and Ranch (August 1). "Nevertheless Department of Agriculture scientists are undertaking to improve the general run of melons produced in this country. Watermelons will grow in every section of the Southwest, and to the uninitiated they look practically alike, but there is often a world of difference in quality. Specialists of the Department of Agriculture probably like watermelons just as the rest of us do, and undoubtedly they have occasionally cut into one that was below par in quality. At any rate, they are importing some wild melons from Africa, where melons originated, and will try to incorporate the good qualities of the African fruit with that of our own raising. One of the objects of this research is to produce a quality melon small enough to go into an ordinary ice box generally found in the homes of city dwellers. May they succeed 100 percent."

**Netherlands Import Fees** Netherlands monopoly import fees on wheat, corn and oats have been increased from 1.50 florins per 100 kilos to 2 florins, and the fees on rye and barley have been increased from 1.50 to 3 florins per 100 kilos, the Commerce Department reports. The total of monopoly fees on wheat flour has been increased to 5.27 florins per 100 kilos. (New York Times.)



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Vol. LXX, No. 27

Section 1

August 9, 1938

**COTTON CROP, PRICE, GOODS** The Federal Crop Reporting Board forecast yesterday an 11,988,000 bale cotton crop for 1938, an estimated 6,958,000 bales below last year's production. A loan program is required to be established under the law if the average price on the principal markets falls below 52 percent of parity, or about 8.27 cents a pound on the basis of the present parity figure of 15.9 cents a pound. The estimate was based on the condition of the crop August 1. (New York Times.) An Associated Press report from New York says that cotton lost up to \$1.70 a bale yesterday under heavy liquidation promoted by the Government crop estimate. There was enough trade buying to cause partial recoveries and the market closed 12 to 20 points net lower. December, which had sold off from 8.54 to 8.23, closed at 8.37. A press report in the New York Times says that, although the immediate effect of the government cotton crop estimate was to bring slight reductions in gray goods and to keep buying of both gray and finished goods small, traders said that there is little danger that the large crop will cause serious interruption of the improvement in cotton goods which began some months ago.

**GRAIN PRICES AT 5-YEAR LOW** Downward plunges smashed 5-year bottom price records anew in all grains yesterday, tumbling corn  $3 \frac{1}{8}$  cents lower and wheat and rye about  $2 \frac{1}{2}$  cents, says a Chicago report by the Associated Press. A general selling movement by owners of grain futures of every kind took place. Leading the wholesale upset of values, Chicago corn futures closed  $2 \frac{1}{4}$  to 3 cents lower compared to Saturday's finish, September 50 to  $50 \frac{1}{8}$ , December 48  $\frac{1}{8}$  to  $48 \frac{1}{4}$ .

**BRAZILIAN EXCHANGE** A Rio de Janeiro cable to the New York Times says the long-expected change in policy in Brazil's exchange regulations materialized yesterday. The Bank of Brazil increased the dollar selling rate to 17.7 milreis instead of 17.6 milreis, which rate had been maintained unchanged since December 27, 1937. The dollar buying rate continues unaltered at 17.3 milreis. The corresponding selling exchange rates of all other currencies have been raised. Among the new regulations issued by the bank that especially affect certain American business firms is the requirement that firms operating on open account must deposit milreis at the time that they make application for exchange instead of the former practice of depositing milreis after the exchange contract was granted.



Cotton For                    Use of cotton as a covering for cotton bales has been  
Bale Covers                made possible under a program calling for the manufacture  
                                 and sale of newly developed cotton bagging sufficient to  
cover one million bales, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration  
announces. The program is designed to meet requests of the cotton indus-  
try that use of cotton as bale covering be given a reasonable trial. Sale  
of the cotton bagging will be confined to one-variety or improved cotton  
communities in order to check results of the program. The program,  
according to F. R. Wilcox, Director of the AAA Division of Marketing and  
Marketing Agreements, should promote the use of cotton as a bale covering.  
"Use of cotton for this purpose has long been advocated in the South,"  
Mr. Wilcox said. "In a smaller way cotton patterns were tested out last  
year in a program under which about 16,000 bale coverings were supplied  
to 21 cooperating agencies....A normal crop of cotton for the United States  
would require the use of about 75 million yards of bagging material or the  
equivalent of about 135,000 bales of cotton."

Farm Boys                    A recent survey by Ray E. Wakeley, rural sociologist  
Leave Home                at Iowa State College, indicates that more than one-half  
                                 of the rural children of Iowa leave home, and of these one  
out of five leaves the state. The high point in this migration of children  
comes at the ages of eighteen to twenty for females and twenty-one to  
twenty-four for males. The popular notion that the depression drove many  
children back to the home farm and village was not borne out by the survey.  
"Only one out of every seventy children who left home before 1929," said  
Mr. Wakeley, "had returned and was living at home in 1935." An investiga-  
tion into the extent of education revealed that nearly one-half of the  
open country children over sixteen years of age have not completed more  
than eight years of school. About 25 percent of the village children have  
failed to go beyond the eighth grade, Wakeley declared. School children  
who go no farther than the eighth grade are the most likely to leave home,  
while those who reach the eleventh grade, or complete two or three years  
of college, are least likely to leave. But college graduates from both  
the village and the farm, especially the latter, are unlikely to remain at  
home. (Wallaces' Farmer, July 30.)

Iowa Dairy                    A new 12 months' course is to be offered by Iowa State  
Plant Course                College on a collegiate basis to young men who are interested  
                                 in preparing for positions in dairy products plants. The  
first quarter starts December 15. The plan differs from the usual short  
course in that it calls for the regular college entrance requirements,  
plus at least three months of practical experience. After completing the  
first two quarters, each student is required to engage in practical dairy  
work in a commercial plant for at least five months before returning for  
the balance of the curriculum. (Dairy Record, July 27.)



Article on                In the National Municipal Review (August) Cedric  
Greenbelt                Larson, Library of Congress, writes on "Greenbelt,  
Maryland: A Federally Planned Community." In the con-  
cluding paragraph he says: "Just what the future of Greenbelt will be  
is somewhat in the province of conjecture. Unless unforeseen events  
interfere, the present town of about one thousand units should enjoy a  
steady and prosperous growth. Whether or not two thousand additional  
dwelling units will be erected is dependant entirely upon the will of  
Congress. If the present Greenbelt demonstration project proves a suc-  
cess, probably the additional dwelling units will become a reality with-  
in a decade and the Greenbelt of 1948 will show a population of 15,000  
or 20,000. As explained at the outset of this study, the federal govern-  
ment controls some 25,000 acres in this area with ample room to develop  
two or three additional cells of about three thousand units each with  
plenty of space for park, playground, and other facilities. If central-  
ization of government in Washington during the next twenty years keeps  
pace with the last twenty, it will mean a tremendous suburban expansion  
for the metropolitan area of Washington, and perhaps the greater Green-  
belt of 1960 will have a population of 50,000. With such a construction  
program there would scarcely be any relief or unemployment problem in  
the neighboring Maryland counties for years to come."

Shelter Belt                "Outstate Nebraska papers have been printing some  
Progress                interesting pictures of trees," says an editorial in  
                         Omaha World Herald (August 1). "The interest arises from  
the fact that the photographs show trees that stand well above the height  
of a man, and these trees are part of the shelter belt project, launched  
amid much doubt a few years ago. The pictures support the assertions of  
foresters that the shelter belt project is entirely feasible, that trees  
will grow on the western plains, that they will prove of increasing value  
as the years roll on. This is the factual report on the trees planted  
but little more than three years ago. From 70 to 90 percent of those  
planted have survived. Many, beginning with a height of 12 to 15 inches,  
have grown to 15 feet in height. Protective windbreaks have already en-  
abled some farmers to grow, successfully, crops that they could not grow  
before. These results have been obtained in spite of the fact that the  
growing period has been marked by unprecedented heat and drouth. The  
happier results with the shelter belt planting, as contrasted with the  
failure of pioneer planting, is attributed to the fact that the plantings  
have been supervised and the care of the growing trees directed by the  
Forest Service, and by farmers co-operating with and following the advice  
of the Forest Service."

Farm Exports                The Department of Agriculture reports that American  
Increase                farmers sold \$155,000,000 more agricultural products abroad  
                         during the fiscal year ended June 30 than during the pre-  
vious twelve months. The largest gain was in wheat, and the sharpest  
decline was in cotton. The total value of farm exports increased from  
\$732,474,000 to \$887,682,000. "Bumper crops, resulting in adequate sur-  
pluses available for export," the department said, "gave foreigners an  
opportunity to buy American grain at competitive prices for the first  
time in more than four years." (Associated Press.)



**Utah Grain Storage**                      Utah lumbermen will cooperate with wheat producers in providing storage facilities in which to hold surplus wheat from the 1938-39 market under provisions of the 1938 AAA act, one of their number has indicated. He advised the state AAA that, in his opinion, most of the lumber dealers of Utah would accept crop mortgages on wheat and issue lumber for building of granaries. Such mortgages would not interfere with the producers receiving loans on wheat in storage, it was indicated at state AAA offices. The administration indicated that commercial and farm storage facilities in Utah cannot begin to satisfy demands for storage to accommodate this year's bumper crop. Working drawings and bills of materials will be available through Utah Extension Service for various types of granaries meeting specifications. (Salt Lake Tribune, July 31.)

**Civil Service Examinations**              The Civil Service Commission announces the following examinations: unassembled, Senior Consultant in Public Assistance, \$4,600; Consultant in Public Assistance, \$3,800; Associate Consultant in Public Assistance, \$3,200; Assistant Consultant in Public Assistance, \$2,600. Optional Subjects: (1) Case work; (2) Social research and statistics. Bureau of Public Assistance and Bureau of Research and Statistics (Social Security Board) and Children's Bureau (Department of Labor). Applications must be on file not later than (a) September 6, if received from states other than those in (b), (b) September 9, if received from the following States: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

**Reproduction of Documents**              "The American Documentation Institute, of Washington, has inaugurated an auxiliary publication service," says *Clinical Medicine and Surgery* (August), "whereby the editors of journals in any technical field are enabled to publish, without cost to themselves or to the authors, articles which, by reason of their length or the number of illustrations, graphs, or other supporting material accompanying them, could not be printed in full in the journals without entailing prohibitive expense. Any editor, after deciding that such an article is suitable for publication in his magazine, makes up his mind how much of it he will actually print in its pages, and sends the rest of it to the A.D.I., where it is placed on file in the Library of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, given a permanent Document Number, and a cost price is set for reproducing it by microfilm, photoprint, offset printing, or any other method which will be least expensive. The editor then places a footnote to the part he is going to print, giving the Document Number and the prices at which the entire article may be obtained, in the most popular forms of reproduction. The author, or anyone else who desires a copy of the complete article or the accessory material, can then order it directly from the Institute, referring to it by number and remitting the exact cost price of the form of reproduction he wishes. The first instance in which we have used this auxiliary publication service occurs in this issue..."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXX, No. 28

Section 1

August 10, 1938

## HIGHWAY SAFETY

"Two important factors in highway safety--the road and the driver--were under discussion at the National Institute for Highway Safety Training at Ann Arbor (Mich.) yesterday," reports Reginald M. Cleveland in the New York Times. "It was shown by Varnum B. Steinbaugh, chief engineer of the Michigan State Highway Commission, that the 3-lane highway still has a place in modern road building. A study made of 1,374 accidents on 743 miles of road showed that on 2-lane highways 1.97 persons were killed for each 1,000,000 vehicle miles of travel. On 3-lane highways the figure dropped to 1.32 and on 4-lane undivided highways it rose again to 1.81. Excluding the pedestrian and intersection accidents from the total and leaving only the accidents due to passing either in the same or opposite directions, the figures were 1.47 persons killed per 1,000,000 miles of vehicle travel for two lane, 1.32 for three lane and 1.16 for four lane undivided highways..."

## BUILDING CONTRACTS

The rise in building contracts in the field of private enterprise in May was extended moderately in June, with the result that contracts reached the highest volume this year, according to the Alexander Hamilton Institute yesterday. As in May, the rise in June was contrary to the usual seasonal trend. Contracts in June were 4 percent larger than in May as compared with an average decrease of 3.3 percent from May to June in the preceding 13 years. Both residential and nonresidential contracts rose in June to new highs for 1938. The expansion in June, however, failed to raise the volume to the level of a year ago. Total contracts were 21.7 percent smaller than in June last year. (Press.)

## FARM RECEIPTS, GOV. PAYMENTS

Receipts from the sale of principal farm products in June were below June last year in all major geographical divisions, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported yesterday. Decreases ranged from 7 percent in the West North Central States to 25 percent in the Western States. Government payments in June totaled \$45,000,000 compared with \$27,000,000 in June last year. The increases were greatest in the South Atlantic and South Central States. The January-June total was 22 percent below last year and was smaller in all major geographical divisions except the North Atlantic. During the first half of 1938 receipts from farm marketings were 12 percent below the first half of 1937.



**Scientific Book List**            The second edition of the "Select List of Standard British Scientific and Technical Books" has been prepared by the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaus. The Book-List Committee consulted authorities upon every subject, so that the books may be justly regarded as representative of existing works in science and technology now available from British publishers. About three hundred books are included in the list, which is subdivided into twenty-three sections. Sections on agriculture and on medicine and surgery have been added in the revised edition. (Nature, London, July 23.)

**Citrus Pest Control**            California Cultivator (July 30) says editorially: "...Dr. A. M. Boyce of the citrus experiment station has been working for the past two or three years with a number of new dusts, one of which bears the name of dinitro-ortho-cyclohexylphenol, but is more frequently called dinitro dust. This gives promise of being effective in several ways, particularly against red spider on citrus. Since it does not fume it is necessary to hit the bugs in order to kill them and complete coverage is an essential problem. Up until recently it was believed that, because of the heavy foliage on citrus trees, it would not be possible to treat them with dusts. The agricultural engineering department of the University of California designed an entirely new type of duster that seems to be satisfactory. Former machines supplied a small volume of air at high velocities, 150- to 200 miles per hour. The newer type uses ventilating fans for the blowers and supplies a large volume of air, 18,000 to 20,000 cubic feet per minute, which travels at 60 to 80 miles per hour and floats the dust all through the trees...About twenty of these machines have been constructed and are in use in southern California. These machines are very good for applying cryolite for control of orange worms in addition to other pests."

**Fruit Bud Sports**            "A. D. Shamel, physiologist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture at Riverside (California) who is always on the lookout for new fruit bud sports," says Pacific Rural Press (July 30), "writes us complimenting the many orchardists that have written him when they have observed new sports. We again urge our readers to be continually on the watch for any apparently freakish development on any of your fruit trees...This is Nature's way to develop new varieties and many of our best commercial varieties of fruit have been so developed. Whenever you note anything that you think may be a bud sport, write Dr. Shamel at Riverside and tell him the details regarding it."

**Cattle Rustling**            "Maine and Vermont furnish scattered reports of cattle rustling within their borders," says an editorial in New England Homestead (July 30). "Modern transportation via truck makes this possible. The rustlers have little difficulty in driving their trucks into pastures in isolated areas during the night, loading, and in a few hours' time are in nearby states. In Massachusetts the state police 'Dawn Patrol' has rendered valuable service, particularly to the onion and poultry growers, and losses as a result of their activities have been reduced to a minimum."



Drug Standards  
Laboratory

The American Pharmaceutical Association, professional organization of pharmacists, has opened a new research laboratory for establishing drug standards in its national headquarters at Washington. Directed by Dr. E. N. Gathercoal, chairman of the National Formulary revision committee, the laboratory will conduct research work looking toward improved standards of quality and performance for drug preparations that go into the nation's medicines. Under the law, standards determined by the pharmacists and physicians who publish the United States Pharmacopoeia become legal standards in the preparation of drugs. (Science Service.)

Exports to  
Latin America

"Recent action of the Export-Import Bank of Washington in opening new credits for financing exports to Latin America, to meet intensified competition from Europe, has paved the way for a long-term development of the United States' marketing frontiers to the south, in the opinion of exporters in New York City," says J. G. Forrest in the New York Times. "...This activity is considered highly significant in so far as United States foreign trade is concerned, because in the past the bank has concentrated its operations in the European field. However, in recent years, and particularly in 1937 and the first half of 1938, an increasingly large part of this country's foreign trade has been diverted to Latin-American channels. Our exports to Central and South America increased 89 percent from 1934 to 1937, compared with a gain of 51 percent in our exports to the world at large. Latin-American trade now represents 19 percent of this country's total commerce abroad. The 89 percent gain has been made in the face of determined, high-pressure competition from European nations and Japan..."

Farm Living  
Cost Survey

Results of a survey taken by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the Social Security Board, made public recently, show a wide variation of 31 percent in living costs for farmers throughout the country. This is the first time a study of this kind has been undertaken. Prices paid by farmers for food, clothing, automobiles and other articles used for living were taken into consideration. A wide variation in living costs for farmers in states near Iowa was shown. North Dakota farmers paid 6 percent more to live than Iowans; Minnesota and South Dakota farmers, 3 percent more. In Missouri the cost of living for farmers was 8 percent less than in Iowa and in Kansas 4 percent less. Living costs in Nebraska, Iowa and Wisconsin were the same, 103 percent. In Illinois the national average of 100 percent was struck. Prices were highest to farmers in Nevada and lowest in Arkansas, Tennessee, Alabama and South Carolina. "A number of reasons may be advanced to explain these wide geographical differences in prices paid by farmers," the report said. "One of the principal factors, however, was the difference in the average quality of many articles purchased which is a reflection of variations in the customary mode of living..." (Des Moines Register, July 30.)



Rates of Interest      "It is generally conceded that the era of high interest rates in this country is over and that capital will have to be satisfied with smaller returns on investments," says an editorial in Farm and Ranch (August 1). "Under the Bankhead-Jones tenancy act the Federal Government is loaning money for the purchase of a limited number of farms for former tenants. These loans cover 100 percent of the purchase price, the rate being 3 percent and the time extended, if need be, for a period of forty years. Tenants thus favored are carefully selected, character, health, thrift and ability being considered. Many of these farmers will repay the Government in a much shorter period than allowed by the terms of the loan because they are obligated to practice the fundamentals of good agriculture under competent supervision... Under the Home Owners Loan Corporation the Government by insuring 80 percent of the loan, and by supervising construction, has encouraged home ownership in cities... It has been suggested that private capital might be interested in the purchase of farms for deserving tenants under the same terms offered by the HOLC, giving long time terms and low interest, payments to be made semi-annually or annually... Home ownership stimulates patriotism and develops good citizens. Owners have an incentive to take care of the land and improvements and increase values. They take an interest in the schools, in community development and in matters of Government. If for no other reason, capital should become interested in any constructive plan to increase home ownership and the number of owner operated farms... Insurance companies and many other loaning agencies are now unwilling owners of farms. They secured them through foreclosure, mainly because farmers could not continue paying high rates of interest during years of low income, and because of short term notes, were forced to pay large fees in refinancing. It is now an opportune time for these companies to join in an organized movement to dispose of these farms on such terms as will insure them against repossession."

Fur Animal Research      "Research in fur farming problems, including disease, nutrition, genetics, etc., was started at the University of Wisconsin August 1," reports the Fur & Market Journal (August). "Long-continued efforts of the American National Fox & Fur Breeders Association to bring about this research were successful when the State Emergency Board appropriated \$10,000 for the work. Dr. Walter Wisnicky, state director of livestock sanitation, has been named professor of veterinary science and director of the research work. The work in general will be under the supervision of Dean E. B. Fred of the graduate school... It is the hope of the association to establish similar projects in other land-grant agricultural colleges throughout the United States. With the establishment of such projects fur farming will come into its own as a livestock and agricultural industry. The industry will have the help of scientists in the solution of its many problems."



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Section 1

August 11, 1938

## CORN CROP FORECAST

The Department of Agriculture announced yesterday an official forecast of a 2,566,221,000-bushel corn crop, making unnecessary a referendum among farmers on the application of marketing quotas. The department said that indicated supplies did not reach the supply level which would make a poll mandatory under the new crop control law. It said this year's indicated supply, taking into account an estimated surplus of 320,000,000 bushels from last year, was 2,886,000,000 bushels, or 27,000,000 below the supply requiring a referendum. As a result, growers of corn will be free to sell or use for feed all the grain they produce this year. Corn production amounted to 2,644,995,000 bushels last year and averaged 2,306,157,000 during the ten years 1927-1936. (Associated Press.)

## SAFETY ON HIGHWAYS

A correspondent of the New York Times, reporting on the First National Institute for Traffic Safety Training yesterday, says that in Milford, Michigan, "on twenty-three miles of road which duplicate every driving condition, testing engineers have driven cars at speeds running up, in certain tests, above 100 miles an hour, more than 70,000,000 miles, with only one fatal accident...Various types of roadway from the 'billiard table' speed courses to Belgian block, which rattles the whole mechanism in a 'torture test', and mud roads which cover a car with water and soupy dirt, were shown, as were the test hills, running up to 27 percent grade, the 'bath tub' to wet brakes and the whole indoor testing laboratory..."

## U.S.-ECUADOR TRADE PACT

The State Department announced yesterday that a reciprocal trade agreement between the United States and Ecuador had been signed. The announcement said the agreement was "in general, similar to the trade agreements previously concluded, except that with Cuba. It consists of general provisions containing mutual guarantees of unconditional most-favored-nation treatment with respect to all forms of trade or payments controls and two schedules listing the tariff concessions which will be granted by each government." The agreement is to become effective thirty days after its proclamation by the Chief Executives of both countries. The State Department said the full text probably would be made public within a few days. (Associated Press.)



Weather by Telephone "In the (London) Times of July 11, there is an account of a new enterprise on the part of the Dutch meteorological service and Dutch General Post Office," says Nature (London, July 16). "In Great Britain, anyone can get the latest official weather report over the telephone by asking for it at the Meteorological Office, but on the Hague telephone system the subscriber need only call the number 393131 and he will hear automatically the latest forecast, not only for Holland, but also for Great Britain, Belgium and North and West Germany. To this is added a statement of the distribution of high and low barometric pressure over Western Europe, and doubtless also an indication of the way in which the distribution is changing."

Dairy Products Promotion "Cooperating in a national campaign to promote wider use of milk and dairy products, Ohio has set up through Director H. C. Ramsower of Ohio State University a state dairy stabilization committee with C. F. Christian of the Dairymen's Cooperative Sales Association," says Ohio Farmer (July 2). This national campaign for greater milk consumption is similar to the one promoted last year when many organizations reported sales increased as much as 100 per cent...Ohio's dairy committee, unlike those set up in other states, will continue throughout the year on promotional campaigns to increase the consumption of milk, butter and other dairy products."

Preservation of U.S. Woods The editorial in the August Journal of Forestry, "A Century of Wood Preservation in the United States," says in part: "Much of the credit for this research (on wood preservation) must go to the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory. The laboratory has participated in one of the most significant forest conservation programs yet developed in America. For this and other reasons it must be regarded as an effective federal forest conservation agency...During 1936, the last year for which figures are available, over 222 million cubic feet of wood were treated. Included in this volume were almost 38 million cross ties. In 1937, over 345 million cubic feet of wood were given preservative treatment, including some 74 million cross ties. The increase in growth of the use of preserved ties by American railways is indicated by the fact that about 50 percent of the total tie renewals in 1923 were preserved ties, whereas in 1935, 75 percent of the renewals were preserved ties. The decrease in tie consumption by American railways is indicated by the fact that cross tie renewals per mile of track fell from 261 for the five year period ending 1915, to 180 for the five year period ending in 1929, and to about 121 in 1937. It is impossible to give an average figure for the increased life or service of treated wood products. However, an estimated increase in life of from two to three times would appear to be highly conservative. Thus, because of the wood-preserving industry, the annual drain on American forests has been reduced by many hundred million board feet without reducing in any way the services rendered society by forest products. If all the wood that could be treated economically were given preservative treatment, the annual drain on American forests probably could be still further reduced by at least several billion board feet..."



**S.C.S. to Aid Local Districts** Thirty-six local soil conservation districts, recently organized in States which have soil conservation district laws, will be aided by the Soil Conservation Service, H. H. Bennett, Chief, announces. The districts, in Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, North Carolina, North Dakota, South Carolina, South Dakota, Utah, and Nevada, have a total land area of more than 35,000,000 acres. Technical personnel to help with preliminary surveys and plans for individual farms, as well as agronomists, engineers, and soil conservationists, will be provided by the Service. In some cases, the Soil Conservation Service also will provide part of the equipment, materials, and labor needed. Several districts will receive help from CCC camps assigned to the Service. Although the Service plans to carry on soil conservation work through local soil conservation districts, the demonstration projects and CCC camps developed in the last few years will continue, Bennett stated. During the past three years, the SCS, in cooperation with some 60,000 individual farmers, has established more than 500 practical demonstrations throughout the country.

**June Foreign Trade Down** A drop of more than \$30,000,000 in the value of the foreign trade of the United States is disclosed in figures made public by the Department of Commerce for June in comparison with June, 1937. The tables disclosed, however, that in some cases there had been increases, notably in Central America. Total exports, including re-exports, for June amounted to \$232,686,000, compared with \$265,341,000 in June, 1937. General imports for the period amounted to \$145,896,000 compared with \$286,224,000 for June, 1937. Increases were noted in exports to Costa Rica, Honduras, and Salvador, with which countries reciprocal trade treaties are in force. (New York Times.)

**"Incubator" for Fruits** Now we have "incubator" fruit trees which are heralded as marking a distinct advance in the breeding of new varieties of fruit, especially with such fruits as the peach, cherry, and plum where it is exceedingly difficult at times to obtain viable seed, says the New York (Geneva) Experiment Station Progress Report. The methods whereby the incubator idea has been applied to fruit breeding have been worked out by Dr. H. B. Tukey, horticulturist at the station. "The method calls for the cutting open of immature fruits before the embryo is fully matured, removing it under aseptic conditions, and placing it in a small bottle which contains the essential nutrients for plant growth," says Dr. Tukey. "Embryos treated in this way have been grown to small plants, then transferred to the greenhouse, and finally moved to the orchard where some of them are now fruiting."

**U.S. Wool Situation** Recent developments in the domestic wool situation and mill consumption prospects for the last half of 1938 may bring further moderate advances in wool prices, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics says. The bureau points to the sharp reduction in stocks of finished and semi-finished wool goods in recent months, which was followed by increased mill activity and mill sales through June and July.



Fighting Under the title, "Fighting Town and Farm Fires," in  
Farm Fires the American City (August), Fred S. McCargar describes the  
fire department of Salinas, California, and says in part;  
"At each farm in the rural district, a card hangs alongside the telephone,  
showing the district, the ranch number, and the name to announce when  
calling the department. At the fire house, in a filing cabinet alongside  
a map of the district, are large cards carrying the details about each  
ranch. The driver takes the particular card with him, and the second man  
on the truck reads it on the way to the fire. It shows the number of  
buildings, water supply, power supply, pumps, height of tank, distance of  
buildings from tanks and from neighbor's water supply. On the back of  
the card there is a map showing the ways to enter the farm from the main  
highway. This system has saved a large number of farm buildings."

Wheat Loans AAA officials announced that the Commodity Credit  
Liberalized Corporation has liberalized the terms of the loan on this  
year's wheat crop. The CCC, officials said, has revised  
original regulations to make loans available on No. 4 winter wheat which  
meets all requirements of No. 3, except as to weight. The loan regula-  
tions were revised in response to complaints from many wheat growers that  
they were unable to take advantage of the government advance because their  
wheat failed to meet the necessary grade requirements. In addition to  
liberalizing the loan to make it available on such No. 4 winter wheat,  
the corporation also revised the loan requirements for spring wheat. In  
the case of hard red spring wheat, the loan has been extended to include  
No. 3 and No. 4, when the latter meets the qualifications, except as to  
weight. (Wall Street Journal, August 10.)

Plant Tops Dr. William J. Robbins of the New York Botanical  
Aid Roots Garden and Dr. Mary Bartley Schmidt of the University of  
Missouri, in joint research reported in the Botanical  
Gazette, have cultivated roots of tomato plants without any tops attached.  
By juggling the ingredients of the culture fluid in which the roots grow,  
it is possible to learn something of their basic requirements. The  
culture fluid is one devised by Dr. Philip R. White of the Rockefeller  
Institute, first to be able to grow roots indefinitely without any tops  
attached. Three essential ingredient-groups are included: several mineral  
salts, cane sugar, and yeast extract. Drs. Robbins and Schmidt found that  
they can substitute vitamin B<sub>1</sub> for the yeast extract and still obtain root  
growth. They can even substitute an organic fraction of the vitamin,  
known as thiazole, and get the roots to grow. The mineral salts in the  
solution are essentially those found in a normally balanced soil solution  
and absorbed directly by the roots. Sugar must be supplied to the isolated  
roots in the cultures, and since the green tops are par excellence pro-  
ducers of sugar the necessity of this line of supply is easily seen;  
though the mechanism of the transfer in the living plant may not be so  
easily understood. (Science Service.)



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Section 1

August 12, 1938

**WALLACE ON CROP CONTROL** Secretary Wallace warned farmers yesterday they faced a possible collapse in agricultural prices and destruction of the capitalistic system if they heeded critics of the Administration's crop control law, says an Associated Press report. Answering criticism that developed in the midwest corn belt this spring and more recently in southern cotton and tobacco regions and the northwestern spring wheat area, the Cabinet officer urged 260 state AAA committeemen to launch a militant campaign to "save the act." "I believe the law...is the best possible solution to the farm problem," Wallace said. His remarks were made at a time when tobacco growers in Georgia and Florida were contesting legality of marketing quotas imposed under the farm act and spring wheat growers were demanding exemption from a restrictive planting program for 1939. Criticism also was being voiced in the South at failure of the AAA to provide loans on cotton that would raise the prices from about 8.5 to 10 or 12 cents a pound. Many corn growers criticized acreage allotments made under the law this spring.

**RECOVERY ACT REPORT** Reports on the progress of President Roosevelt's 1938 relief-recovery program will be submitted to him today. Under the 1938 relief recovery act, six federal agencies received authority to spend or lend in increasing volume over the previous year, while earlier legislation gave additional lending authority to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. The six agencies are the Works Progress Administration, Rural Electrification Administration, Farm Security Administration, Public Works Administration, United States Housing Authority and Agricultural Adjustment Administration. (New York Times.)

**N.D. PEGS DURUM PRICE** Governor William Langer has announced to North Dakota farmers that the state mill and elevator at Grand Forks would pay 65 cents a bushel for No. 1 <sup>milling</sup> amber durum, which he declared was 17 cents above card prices. Yesterday in Fargo card prices quoted premiums on milling durum of 10 cents, double that of day before yesterday, before Governor Langer announced his peg on carload lots delivered at the mill. Fargo cards yesterday quoted 60-pound amber durum at 49 cents, a cent higher than day before yesterday, with a premium of 2 to 10 cents for milling grain. The Department of Agriculture on Wednesday estimated North Dakota's durum crop at 30,000,000 bushels, three-fourths of the total crop of the nation. (New York Times.)



Highway Nature Magazine (August-September) in an article on  
Zoning highway zoning in California, says that the American  
Nature Association and the National Roadside Council made  
a survey, several years ago, on roadside conditions in California. The  
report revealed "the strangle hold of the billboard industry, and new  
highs in bad taste in roadside business structures. Since that study  
California has passed a law directing the establishment of county plan-  
ning commissions that would draw up master plans for county zoning and  
development. Thirty-three out of the State's fifty-eight counties--com-  
prising about 85 percent of the population--having carried out the terms  
of the law, thirteen counties actively, a survey of results was in order...  
The report of this survey brings out, in fact and in picture, both the  
problems and the possibilities of county highway zoning. We find, for  
example, that San Mateo County can boast of one thousand miles of paved  
highways and county roads free from billboards and protected from road-  
side business...Certain roadside business enterprises are necessary to  
provide fuel and food for car and occupants. The San Mateo County Plan-  
ning Commission, however, is unable to see why these enterprises should  
not have buildings that are architecturally consistent and in good taste.  
The result is that this county is one of the most outstanding in the  
United States, an example and inspiration to all...'The fundamental prin-  
ciples underlying the protection of rural highways by zoning,' says the  
report, 'are that business shall be kept off these highways so far as  
possible; commercial zones shall be created only where necessary, shall  
be small in area and shall be open only to those forms of business  
actually needed by the traveler. This does not include billboards any  
more than it includes dance halls, outdoor zoos, junk yards, or a dozen  
other uses that clutter and disfigure our unzoned roadsides.'...Progress  
has been made in county zoning in California. It will and must be made  
elsewhere, otherwise safety and pleasure of highway travel are doomed.  
Setting aside considerations of good taste and esthetics, as important  
as they are, zoning of rural highways is plain common sense."

Condition of "The nation's railroads in August probably will come  
Railroads close to breaking even after charges for the first time  
since last December," says Henry Van Ells in the Wall Street  
Journal (August 9). "This trend should continue in succeeding months be-  
cause the higher wage rates to the non-operating unions became effective  
on August 1, last year. The operating brotherhoods received their in-  
crease on October 1, 1937...Moreover, rails now have their expenses under  
definite control in relation to the volume of traffic. This was first re-  
flected in reports for June, although some carriers had reduced expenses  
sharply as early as last September. The comparison with August, 1937,  
should be favorable in view of the fact that net operating income in that  
month lumped some \$10,000,000 from the previous period, to \$50,307,881,  
due to higher wage costs. Both gross and net operating income in July are  
believed to have reached a new high point for this year, aided by heavy  
crop movement and the pickup in industrial traffic. Net operating income  
in June amounted to only \$25,000,803. It is estimated that the July  
figure was at least some \$31,000,000..."



Waxing of Vegetables      Waxing of vegetables to maintain freshness is said to be gaining in popularity, according to the New York Extension Service. Many inquiries have come to the New York College of Agriculture the past year concerning the waxing of vegetables. Different methods are used. One developed at Cornell is simple, using a cold wax emulsion. The emulsions can be applied by dipping to carrots, beets, squash, pumpkins, cucumbers, tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, and many other vegetables. On drying, a very thin film, one ten-thousandth of an inch thick, is left on the vegetable. Thin as this film is, it effectively reduces water losses and shriveling. It is absolutely harmless, has no taste, and can be removed by washing with warm water, which is recommended for all vegetables, waxed or unwaxed, before they are eaten. Experiments have shown that waxed vegetables can be kept from two to three times as long as the unwaxed ones before they show signs of wilting or breakdown. The cost of materials for waxing is small; a bushel of root crops can be waxed for one or two cents. Interested growers are urged to make preliminary tests, using a single gallon of wax and a wire basket for dipping before they go ahead on a larger scale.

Dairy Herd Improvement      The leading article in Hoard's Dairyman (August 10) is an abstract of a paper by O. E. Reed, Chief of the Bureau of Dairy Industry. He says in part: "Nearly 600,000 cows are enrolled in the dairy herd improvement associations and the interest in the work is growing rapidly. This program has been in operation less than two years, but already more than 275,000 animals have been identified and more than 100,000 complete records have been received at the bureau for permanent recording. Of the nearly 600,000 cows now on test, our best estimate is that 159,500 are registered, or are eligible for registry in a national breed association. The remainder are high grades of all breeds...We do not claim that every phase of the program is perfect, but with the enthusiasm and interest displayed by the dairy extension leaders in our colleges, by the fieldmen or testers, and by the association members themselves who are footing the bill of more than \$1,000,000 annually in order to obtain these records, it should be possible to remove any defects that may appear. It should be remembered that this is a program for improving the general run of our cattle. For the most part the members of these associations are farmer breeders interested primarily in improving their commercial herds. All breed associations have a definite program in operation to improve the herds of their members and they are doing a splendid job, especially with the herd test. The records of the dairy herd improvement associations will furnish a means of proving out registered sires in large numbers. Many breeders of registered cattle look forward to the publication of each new list of proved sires. Already many of our best breeders have made selections of bulls for their herds from these lists."



### Dust Bowl Farming

"Nature temporarily ended the blows which in the last eight years have threatened to deplete 97,000,000 acres of the dust bowl's valuable top soil," says Henry N. Dorris in the New York Times (August 11). "But in the first year of a return of plenty the Soil Conservation Service of the Department of Agriculture is fearful that the desire of farmers to return to the 'gambling type' of agriculture, which proved so disastrous in the past, may undo much of the work accomplished under the conservation program. Wheat, corn and other crops have done well under the best supply of rainfall in that area in several years. Only during the first few days of this month have rains failed to fall, but the moisture content of the soil seems sufficient to carry these crops through to maturity, say reports to the service... Soil Conservation officials fear that the lessons learned during the dry years will be lost upon farmers who had to undergo back-breaking toil to maintain a bare existence for themselves and families... 'The farmer who gambles on a wheat crop by seeding when the soil is dry, or nearly dry,' a bulletin reads, 'has not even the chance to "make a killing" that a long-shot gambler demands. He has not 1 chance in 100, on the basis of averages, of a twenty-bushel or better yield. He has only eighteen chances of a ten-bushel or better yield. The chances are 71 out of 100 that the crop will be a failure (four bushels or less).' Wheat, these officials point out, is a crop that will 'tie down' the land to prevent it from blowing away. They are attempting to tell farmers that wheat cannot be depended upon to keep the soil in place unless the moisture content is sufficient at planting time. And through a twenty-five-year experiment, the Department of Agriculture says that with reasonable accuracy a farmer can ascertain in advance his chances of a wheat crop by boring into the soil for a foot or two. If the moisture content is too low, the farmers are advised to continue the variable type of farming which has been credited with halting or minimizing the dust storms... Practices considered as novelties a few years ago are now a part of the farming program of the region. But one fear is that, while these practices are saving the land, they may be abandoned if the government stops paying farmers to follow the program..."

### Erosion in Missouri

"Members of the Missouri legislature will be asked to consider an enabling act which will justify the U.S. Department of Agriculture in continuing to set up erosion control demonstration areas in this state," says an editorial in Missouri Ruralist (August 6). "...Whether we are to have Federal or state aid in fighting erosion it becomes more and more apparent that Missouri farmers have at last awakened to the real menace of land loss. Erosion is a thief that steals by day and by night, and so quietly does he work that many a farm has been ruined before the owner awakened to what was taking place. Experts in charge of the demonstration areas have proved conclusively that land washing can be controlled by terracing, contour farming, strip-cropping and rotation. These strip-cropped, contour-farmed fields are a sight to make 'bottom farmers' swear the owner must just be out of an asylum. But the owner is enabled to hold his land. We hope there may be more demonstration areas."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

August 15, 1938

## PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES

A marked increase in the public health facilities in the United States has resulted from the provision of funds for this purpose under the social security act, said the U. S. Public Health Service Saturday on the third anniversary of this legislation's passage. The act provides an \$8,000,000 annual appropriation for the stimulation of public health activities by state and local governments, on the theory that the prevention of disabilities that may lead to dependency will lessen the burdens which the Social Security Board attempts to meet. Administration of the fund was given to the Public Health Service. The federal service does not establish jurisdiction over the health activities of the state agencies, but merely allots the federal fund on the basis of population, public health problems and the financial needs of the states being aided. (New York Times.)

## WHEAT EXPORT SUBSIDIES

Secretary Wallace is working on a proposal to place at least 100,000,000 bushels of surplus American wheat in world markets by means of an export subsidy, according to informed officials. The policy of subsidizing exports has been criticized in the past by Secretary Hull of the State Department. The competitive situation developing in the world's grain markets, and prospects of a record-breaking surplus of American wheat and declining domestic prices, were said to have influenced Mr. Wallace's undertaking. Most other major wheat-producing countries use some form of export subsidy. Congress has authorized that a portion of United States customs receipts may be used for subsidies. (Associated Press.)

A Chicago report in the New York Times says the weight of excessive supplies of cash wheat available for world consumption in the 1938-39 crop year was plainly in evidence in the market last week.

## CORN, OATS, RYE, SOYBEANS

Corn, oats, rye and soybeans joined with wheat in sinking to new seasonal low levels last week, and only corn showed any material disposition to rally from the inside figures. Export demand for cash corn has been fairly persistent and has been sufficient to absorb a large part of what the grain trade as a whole regarded recently as a burdensome supply. At the low point last week, the average price for cash corn received by United States farmers was about 10 cents a bushel less than a month ago, and this decline was reflected in much smaller receipts at terminal markets. (New York Times.)



Regulation of            In the Quarterly Journal of Economics (August)  
Transportation D. Philip Locklin, University of Illinois, is author  
of a 16-page article on "Fifty Years of Government Regulation". He says that "for fifty years the people of the United States have been evolving a system of public regulation of railroads and extending this system in lesser degree to other transportation agencies." He refers to a recent study by I. L. Sharfman (The Interstate Commerce Commission: A Study in Administrative Law and Procedure) and says in the last paragraph: "In conclusion it may be said that one cannot read Professor Sharfman's careful study of the Interstate Commerce Commission and its activities without realizing that the Commission has done a difficult task well. One also derives a sense of satisfaction in this demonstration of the ability of the American people to evolve a system of public control of the railroad industry which is consistent with their political institutions and ideals. But pride in past accomplishment should not conceal the fact that the Interstate Commerce Commission and government regulation have other tests to meet in the future. We have by no means attained the objectives which the framers of the Transportation Act of 1920 envisaged, and further implementation of the Commission may be necessary before such ends are attained. New objectives, furthermore, are sought as new problems arise. Final judgment cannot be passed on the system of regulation until it shows itself able to meet these new demands. In fact, it is perhaps impossible ever to pass final judgment on regulation, since appraisal can only be made in terms of the particular objectives of a particular time."

Turkeys at the            M. C. Small, Managing Editor, Turkey World, reports  
1939 Congress            in the August issue that there will be a turkey department in connection with the 1939 World's Poultry Congress. "Winning at the World's Poultry Congress turkey show will be a great honor," he says, "and turkey people should take advantage of this opportunity. An exhibit in which turkey people should be interested is the non-competitive or specimen pen exhibit. In this department will be exhibited one pen of every recognized breed and variety of poultry. There will be another non-competitive live bird exhibit, in which birds from foreign countries will be displayed. There will also be a breeder and breeder association exhibit. In this department, breeders will have the opportunity to buy space for exhibiting their birds for advertising purposes. Turkey breeders should avail themselves of this opportunity. The federal government will have several different types of educational poultry exhibits. Joseph W. Hiscox, Washington, D. C., is chairman of the Federal Government Exhibit Committee. Since the turkey is a native American bird, plenty of space should be given to turkeys in the educational exhibit. A letter from Hiscox states that plans are still in preliminary stages, but 'it is expected that information on turkeys will be included in the sections of the exhibit relating to breeding, housing, nutrition, disease and pest control, marketing and utilization.'..."



Farm Products            Governor Lehman of New York predicted recently to  
Distribution    farmers at the field day of the Empire State Potato Club  
                 that the "great achievements" of the next decade will be  
toward a solution of the problem of efficient distribution. Recalling  
that the farmers have solved the problem of production by producing  
greater quantities with higher efficiency, Mr. Lehman asserted that this  
step was the result of effective research and teaching. "But our very  
success in the field of efficient production," he added, "has brought us  
face to face with the great problem of the future--efficient merchandis-  
ing or distribution. The approach to this problem will be through the  
careful, painstaking work of the scientist piling up the results of re-  
search, fact upon fact, and finally evolving the help, the aids, the  
changes in procedures, and perhaps sweeping changes in policy that I hope  
will ultimately make it possible for people to produce and consume more  
and thus add to our individual and collective prosperity and contentment."  
The resources of the state, he explained, should be used mainly for re-  
search and educational work under the leadership of scientists at the  
state college and experimental stations and with advice of farm organiza-  
tion leaders. (New York Times.)

R.I. Ban on            New regulations under which all cattle over six  
Bang Cattle    months old entering Rhode Island must have passed a stand-  
                 ard tube agglutination test for Bang's disease and be  
negative in all four dilutions was effective August 12, Burton K. Harris,  
chief of the State Division of Agriculture and Conservation, announces.  
The test and the veterinarian must be approved by the State Veterinarian,  
or similar officer, in the state of origin and be acceptable to the  
chief of the Division of Animal Industry and Milk in Rhode Island. The  
tests must have been made within 30 days of shipment into Rhode Island  
and the cattle must not have been exposed to contact with untested or  
reacting animals within that period. The regulation will not apply to  
cattle for immediate slaughter, but all cattle entering the State must  
be accompanied with a permit to slaughter. (Providence Journal, August 5.)

Bicycle            Park Commissioner Moses of New York City has announced  
Pathways        plans for a comprehensive network of bicycle routes in the  
                 principal New York City parks and along the new parkways.  
Moses made his statement in connection with the opening of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile bi-  
cycle road on the site of the old Vanderbilt speedway, long a private  
express road in Long Island and recently turned over to the Long Island  
counties which it traverses. (Engineering News-Record, August 11.)

World Sugar            "Plans are well advanced for the Congress of the In-  
Conference        ternational Society of Sugar Cane Technologists which is  
                 to assemble at New Orleans on October 24 and to continue  
its later sessions at Louisiana State University," says an editorial in  
Facts About Sugar (August). "...The provision being made for the intel-  
lectual and social entertaining of those who attend is such as will justi-  
fy the long journeys which technologists from distant lands will undertake  
to visit New Orleans."



Future of  
Chemistry

Harold C. Urey, Columbia University, writes on "Chemistry and the Future" in Science (August 12). He says in part: "If I could make a reasonable estimate of what the next great development would be, that would be a very important step in making the next discovery. One can not predict the discovery of the Haber process or insulin or artificial radioactivity before they occur, for the reason that these are such new and outstanding things that before their discovery no one had the slightest idea that they existed. I can only point the trend. During the last twenty years the organic chemistry of products produced by living organisms has shown a remarkable growth. Vitamins, hormones, enzymes, have been discovered and isolated. Proteins have been crystalized, and, in fact, one, the tobacco leaf mosaic, appears to be a dead protein which can cause a disease and multiply itself, thus in a way bridging the living and the inanimate. This field will certainly develop markedly in the next years. In the second place, there is a marked trend toward the understanding of the fundamentals of chemical behavior. Nernst stated the third law of thermodynamics in 1906, but today, together with the quantum theory, we have far more exact understanding of that law than ever before. It is being applied to chemical reactions of considerable complexity with confidence and enables us to understand far better the fundamentals of our chemistry. The new artificial radioactivity and the great activity in physics in this connection are important developments for chemical research. In the industrial field straight through the depression the number of useful products has been increased in many ways..."

NEC Report  
on South

The Associated Press summarizes the National Emergency Council's report to the President on economic conditions in the South, as follows: "The paradox of the South is that while it is blessed by nature with immense wealth, its people as a whole are the poorest in the country; in their search for jobs, the productive middle-age groups leave the South in the greatest numbers, tending to make the South a land of the very old and the very young; by the most conservative estimates, 4,000,000 Southern families should be rehoused (this is one-half of all the families in the South); the farming South depends on cotton and tobacco for two-thirds of its cash income (more than half of its farmers depend on cotton alone...but the cotton market is a sheer gamble); the large absentee ownership of the South's natural resources and the South's industry makes it possible for residents elsewhere to influence greatly the manner in which the South is developed and to subordinate that development to other interests outside the South."

Hybrid Wheat  
Breeding

It may take many years to prove that a new variety of wheat is good--as much as 15 or more years before the hybrid variety is released to growers--but only one or two years to show that it is poor. Work is constantly in progress under the direction of the North Dakota Agricultural College experiment station and U. S. Department of Agriculture to breed new and better varieties of crops. (North Dakota Agricultural College News Service.)



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August 16, 1938

## AAA FARM PROGRAM

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration announced yesterday that it would pay to the nation's wheat farmers a subsidy of 26 to 30 cents a bushel for compliance with a planting program calling for a 31 percent reduction in acreage next year. The benefit payment rate compares with 12 cents offered under this year's program. Increased rates were promised for several other major crops. Funds totaling \$712,000,000 are expected to be available for the payments, officials said. At the same time, the AAA announced several other phases of next year's crop programs, including a proposal that cotton growers plan for another small crop and approve, in a referendum to be conducted this fall, the use of marketing quotas to restrict the sale of their products. This year's crop will be sold under quotas. (Associated Press.)

## USDA GREENHOUSES, PLANT INSPECTION

The Department of Agriculture greenhouses and plant inspection buildings on Constitution Avenue between Twelfth and Fourteenth Streets are to be razed to beautify the federal triangle, it was announced yesterday. President Roosevelt and the Public Works Administration have approved a PWA program for replacing the greenhouses with new ones to be built at the department's research center at Beltsville, Maryland, according to H. A. Nelson, assistant director of the Office of Budget and Finance. The buildings which front Constitution Avenue for two blocks will be torn down in from 15 to 18 months, Nelson said. The inspection division will be moved to Hoboken, New Jersey. Nelson explained there had been agitation for several years to have the division closer to New York, the chief port of entry. (Washington Post.)

## WHEAT PRICES, ESTIMATES

Canada's prospect of more than doubling in 1938 her 1937 harvest proved to be a decided factor in forcing Chicago prices down 1 1/2 cents. Five-year low-price records at Chicago, frequently outdone of late, were once again thrown into the discard. Estimates current from authoritative sources indicated that production in Canada's prairie provinces this season would range from 340,000,000 to 350,000,000 bushels, against 163,721,000 last year. A further weight on values was a tentative forecast that Australia's 1938-39 wheat seeding would total 14,179,000 acres versus 13,807,000 the previous season. (Associated Press.)

## MEXICAN TARIFFS

A Mexico City report by the Associated Press says that yesterday tariffs on numerous raw and semi-manufactured products, including steel, which Mexico needs for industrial expansion and agricultural development, were reduced and duties were lifted entirely from educational motion picture films and live cattle.



National Conservation (July-August) contains a condensation  
Land Policy of "Our Land Policy Today", by L. C. Gray, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, (from Land Policy Review, June). It says in part: "By 1938 our land-policy stream had definitely entered a broad plain, drawing its water from over a large portion of the total drainage area representing our national economy. Land policy is no longer restricted to public lands; it concerns all land, whether publicly or privately owned, and concerns all people, particularly all those who through ownership or occupancy of land have a direct influence upon whether this basic natural resource is wasted or wisely used. Moreover, land policy is no longer viewed as merely a means of keeping destructive individuals out of publicly owned areas; it aims at helping private owners and the nation as a whole realize the greatest benefits from land resources. The role of public policy assumes a more positive character in the economic use of natural resources. Our present activities in land policy are centered around easily dramatized national problems--floods, dust storms, drouth, forest devastation. These problems are on the surface separate physical problems, and it is only when we dig into their economic background that we see their underlying unity and interrelationship. Out of this fact has come the need for administrative coordination, but there is no less a need for coordination in thought. In our struggle to devise ways of controlling floods, preventing dust storms, or restoring submarginal lands to good use, we must not forget that no one problem can be treated all alone. As a focal point for these various action programs we have developed the concept of area or regional planning, so that our thinking may revolve around the unity of a physical and economic entity rather than around any one type of land-use adjustment!"

Apple Crop Charles W. Hauck, of Ohio State University, author  
Profits of "Selling the Apple Crop," in American Fruit Grower (August) says in the concluding paragraph: "We appear to be on the threshold of an important shift to by-products--beverages, concentrates, apple syrups, apple powder, and others. The Bureau of Chemistry and Soils of the U.S.D.A. is working on these developments in its laboratories at Pullman and Wenatchee, Wash., and at Los Angeles, Calif. Some show considerable promise. We now use annually about 31,000,000 bushels of apples for these purposes, about 20 percent of our average crop. If this can be raised to 50,000,000 or 30 percent, especially through year-round beverages, the pressure can be taken off the fresh fruit market."

Truck Weights South Carolina's new law permitting trucks with maxi-  
on Highways mum weight of 40,000 pounds and 96 inches in width to operate on state highways again calls attention to the vast change in methods of transportation for perishables that have taken place within the past decade or so. Also to the importance of more good stone roads. Whether we like it or not, the competition for perishable freight between rails and trucks is keen. (Market Growers Journal, August 1.)



Fiber from Casein      The Bureau of Dairy Industry has applied for public service patents on a process for making synthetic fiber, having the appearance of wool, from casein, a milk by-product. Stephen P. Gould and Earl O. Whittier supervised the experiments. To make the fiber, casein is softened in water and dissolved in a solution of caustic alkali. It becomes a thick, sticky mass and is carefully worked into the proper consistency by aging, the addition of modifying agents and by dilution. The mass is then forced through multiple spinnerets of the kind used in making rayon. The fibers are separated and hardened in an acid bath containing formaldehyde and modifiers. Synthetic fiber produced in this manner has a chemical composition almost identical with wool except for a lower sulphur content, the bureau said. It added that the fiber is faintly yellow in color and closely resembles the best grade of thoroughly washed and carded merino wool, the finest size marketed. The casein fiber has the characteristic fine kink of natural wool and may be blended with it to make a product that has the resilience of pure wool. (New York Times.)

Cattle on Feed      The number of cattle on feed for market in the Corn Belt States on August 1 is reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics to be about 12 percent larger than on August 1 last year. This increase compares with estimated increases of 20 percent on April 1 and 15 percent on January 1. In the Eastern Corn Belt, a 17 percent increase was indicated in the number on feed August 1 this year. In the Western Corn Belt, the increase was 8 percent. Last year on August 1, a 29 percent reduction in numbers on feed, compared with a year earlier, was attributed largely to the very small carry-over of feed supplies following the 1936 drought. This year the 12 percent increase is accompanied in general by a large carry-over of feed from the 1937 harvest.

Dust Bowl      The New York Times Magazine (August 14) contains an illustrated article, "A United Front to Reclaim the Dust Bowl," by Roy I. Kimmel, Southern Plains Coordinator, of the Department of Agriculture.

Delivery Charges      The Interstate Commerce Commission has approved schedules filed by three eastern railroad systems providing for charges ranging from 5 cents to 10 cents per 100 pounds for performing collection and delivery service on less than carload freight. The schedules were filed by the New York Central, Delaware & Hudson, and Boston & Maine. The Commission's approval was given when it voted not to suspend the schedules which had been protested by certain shippers and other interested parties. (Wall Street Journal, August 13.)

Wis. Farm Corporation      The Wisconsin Agricultural Authority, a semi-public corporation, organized by the state legislature in its last session, was put into action recently, following a favorable decision by the State Supreme Court. Wilbur Carlson, director of public relations for the State Department of Agriculture and Markets for the past four years, was named director. Allotted an annual appropriation of \$50,000, the Authority is designed to promote Wisconsin agricultural interests and to carry out activities which the state constitution specifically forbids to the state itself. (Creamery Journal, August.)



**Record Sugar Beet Estimate**      The United States Crop Reporting Board has estimated, as of August 1, domestic beet sugar tonnage at 11,138,000 short tons--an all time record. That compares with the board's July 1 estimate of 10,785,000, and 8,749,000 a year ago. Based on last year's average sucrose yield, the August 1 estimate indicates a crop of 1,750,000 short tons, raw value, an all time record also, comparing with the July 1 indicated output of 1,695,000 tons and last year's outturn of 1,374,804 tons. The record output is bound to be of tremendous importance to the sugar market, for it makes mandatory individual allotments to the beet processors next year, in order that the quota figure will not be exceeded. (New York Journal of Commerce, August 11.)

**New Pheasant Varieties**      The State of Wisconsin will make experimental plantings of six new species of pheasants this fall in a variety of cover, to determine if the present supply of ring-necks cannot be augmented by other birds which appear to possess unlimited gaming possibilities. The new varieties are the Formosan, black-neck cross, Reeves, Kallege and Cheer, and a line-bred strain of Melanistic mutants that has been developed in an Eastern state for the past six years. The mutant has never been stocked in numbers, and the Wisconsin conservation department is anxious to give him a thorough chance to make good. High hopes are also held out for the Formosans, since these birds appear particularly adaptable to river bottom country. Ten plantings of 50 birds each will be made on this breed, one of the most beautiful of the true pheasant family. Other states will probably be watching the experiments with interest--particularly those which have been considering the possibilities of adding the chukar partridge to their game bird supply. (Field & Stream, September.)

**Landscaping in Forests**      "Recent travelers in the national forests and the national parks have begun to notice a new type of highway built through areas of natural beauty for the purpose of enjoyment of the recreational and scenic values to be obtained in driving over them," says Harold L. Curtiss, of the Forest Service (Ogden, Utah) who writes an illustrated article on "Landscape Objectives in Forest Recreational Planning" in Parks and Recreation (August). "From an esthetic standpoint their alignment and location are of foremost importance for on many of these forest and park highways it is conservatively estimated that the recreational use forms 75 to 90 percent of the traffic. Locating engineers and landscape architects are collaborating on problems of the roadside scenic strip; of scenic observation point parking spaces; of the landscape control of the roadside; of improved design in the highway cross-section with emphasis being placed on architectural design of road structures. The preservation of the natural environment through which the road passes is a cardinal principle in the construction of these new highways passing through forest and park recreational areas...One of the most effective of these is the requirement that any developed recreation area be well screened from the highway in order to be out of the roadside scenic strip. No portion of the development should be visible from the road for the reason that the entire roadside should be preserved in as nearly undisturbed natural state as possible. On the better planned areas, roadside picnic parks are being separated from the right-of-way by a buffer strip of several hundred feet of trees and undergrowth. This treatment will involve an access road into the area and any group parking spaces



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Section 1

August 17, 1938

**MINIMUM TRUCK RATES** The Interstate Commerce Commission employed yesterday its broad powers under the motor carrier act for the first time to stop destructive rate wars in the trucking industry by establishing minimum rates in the New England and Central States regions, the two most important transportation areas of the country. Thus it gave government support to efforts of members of the industry who have held regional conferences in an attempt to stabilize the truck rate structure. The decision in the New England case said that action must be taken there because of the existence of an "emergency" due to rate wars which have taken the profits out of truck operations in that area. (New York Times.)

**BRITISH SCIENCE ASSOCIATION** A wireless from England to the New York Times says about 2,500 scientists have flocked to Cambridge for the annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, opening today. Included are such international figures as Professor Niels Bohr, Danish Nobel prize winner; Professor Erich Regener, German cosmic ray authority, both known for their work on the atom; and Dr. Leopold Ruzicka, Swiss pioneer in the synthesis of male hormones. The proposed establishment of a division of the British Association for social and international relations in science will be acted upon. A proposal was passed at the Indianapolis meeting of the American Association to cooperate with the British Association and possibly with scientific societies of other nations to study the social effects of science.

**MERIT SYSTEM IN TARIFF COMMISSION** The Tariff Commission yesterday swung into line with the Executive orders of June 24--which extend the merit system in the federal service--by placing practically all of its expert personnel in the civil service. "The commission seeks by this action to strengthen its ability to attract and hold those of high qualifications and special training in the difficult field of tariff economics," the statement explained. The commission said it was convinced that it could obtain from the civil service registers the type of employees heretofore appointed directly. Under the arrangement, the professional employees may be transferred to other federal agencies under civil service, an avenue not previously open to them. (Washington Post.)

**JULY COTTON** The Census Bureau reported yesterday that cotton consumed in July amounted to 449,511 bales of lint and 61,805 bales of linters, compared with 442,742 and 56,106 in June this year and 70,695 in July of last year. (Associated Press.)



Farmers' Test                      Grain & Feed Journals (August 10) says that speeches  
Wheat Plots                      and bulletins are sometimes unable to impress farmers with  
the possibility of improving the quality of their wheat,  
but "by witnessing the splendid results attained by the (wheat) improve-  
ment association as shown by the test plots they plant pure varieties of  
seed adapted to their soil. The promoters of these test plots have  
organized the Southwest Wheat Improvement Association and have already  
established twenty-five test plots in central and eastern Kansas with  
the result that farmers are discarding a great many varieties of unde-  
sirable wheat. Careful inspection of farmers' fields has disclosed  
forty-two distinct varieties of wheat...Everyone participating is  
enthusiastic over the convincing result of the wheat improvement work.  
The miller will have better wheat to grind and the farmer will get a  
better price. In fact, the test plot plan of promoting the production  
of better milling wheat affords great encouragement for everyone concerned  
in the production of better wheat..."

Highway                              "The construction of sidewalks along state highways  
Sidewalks                      in Massachusetts has effected a marked reduction in  
pedestrian injuries and <sup>deaths</sup> says Roads and Streets (August).  
"A state wide program of construction has been completed by the State De-  
partment of Public Works. The program provided for 500 miles of sidewalk  
along the state highway system of 1,890 miles. A state appropriation was  
made available for the work. The purposes of this undertaking were to  
reduce accidents to pedestrians, provide employment, and indirectly to  
increase the value of abutting property. After the program was under  
way property owners offered easements for sidewalks without compensation  
The locations for sidewalk construction were based on a 6-year study of  
collisions between pedestrians and motor vehicles in the state from 1930  
through 1935. For that period the study showed a total of 4,427 acci-  
dents of the above class in which 3,841 persons were injured and 586  
killed. Before the program of construction began in 1935 there was a  
progressive increase in the accident rate as well as a general increase  
in pedestrian accidents in rural counties as against a decrease in the  
larger cities. In his report on the 'Segregation of Various Classes of  
Traffic on the Highway,' present<sup>ed</sup> at the recent 8th International Road  
Congress at The Hague, R. E. Toms, Chief Division of Design, U.S. Bureau  
of Public Roads, gives the same interesting information regarding the  
effect of this sidewalk construction on pedestrian accidents..."

Famous Trees                      Nearly every noted person and many important histori-  
cal events and places have been associated in some way  
with trees, according to a new publication of the U. S. Forest Service.  
The booklet, Famous Trees (Miscellaneous Publication 295), has informa-  
tion on more than 700 famous trees and also contains descriptions of  
many of the oldest and largest trees in the United States and in other  
parts of the world. The world's largest tree is the General Sherman Big-  
tree, a sequoia in the Yosemite, which contains 600 thousand board feet,  
has a diameter of 36½ feet and a height of 272 feet. The world's tallest  
tree now standing is reported to be an Australian eucalyptus which is  
325 feet tall.



Guy N. Collins      Guy N. Collins, principal botanist of the Bureau of Plant Industry, who introduced the avocado pear in this country, died on Sunday. He had just passed his sixty-sixth birthday. In 1900 he was appointed in the Bureau of Plant Industry. In the following years he visited Latin American countries, where he studied plant life. On an expedition in 1904 in Guatemala he studied the avocado and brought some plants to this country. Two years later in Mexico he discovered a type of cotton growing near Acala. Today the great plantations of the Southwest are devoted almost exclusively to this type of cotton or cotton developed from it. For the last thirty years, Mr. Collins devoted much time to research in developing corn hybrids and cross breeds. He was a pioneer in the science of producing hybrid corn. (New York Times.)

Vitamin D      E. M. Nelson, in charge of the vitamin division, Information      Food and Drug Administration, is author of "The Determination and Sources of Vitamin D" (one of a series of articles on vitamins) in the Journal of the American Medical Association (August 6). He says in summary: "Within the past few years the method of expressing vitamin D potency has become standardized. Vitamin D content is expressed either in U.S.P. or International units, and these units are equal in value. Biologic methods for the determination of vitamin D are now available which permit satisfactory control over preparations intended for use by the physician. There are at present no physical or chemical methods which give promise of replacing biologic assays. Most foods appear to be devoid of demonstrable quantities of vitamin D. Fish which contain much body oil, such as salmon, sardines and herring, are the richest natural sources, eggs are next in importance, and milk fat and meat products contain some vitamin D. Vitamin D milk is now being used extensively as a dependable dietary source of vitamin D. A great variety of pharmaceutical preparations of vitamin D are available for therapeutic use, and new types can be expected to make their appearance. Since there are minimum standards for vitamin D content for only a few of these preparations, statements of vitamin potency must be relied on for their intelligent use."

Midwest Corn      "The decision of Secretary Wallace not to call for a Comment      quota on corn marketings has been greeted with general approval by farmers in Missouri and Kansas," says John M. Collins in a Kansas City report to the New York Times. "While corn prospects in general are the best in years, the production in the two States will not be burdensome because of the limited acreage. It is likely that the livestock population will be increased to utilize the corn crop and the big yield of rough feed now promised. Had a corn quota been voted it is probable few farmers of this area would have come under the restrictions by which they could not sell nor feed more than their quota without paying a penalty of 15 cents a bushel...Farmers in the Southwest have not yet come to a definite conclusion about what to do about the new wheat crop. A tremendous amount of land has been prepared for the crop to be seeded next month..."



## Civil Service

The Civil Service Commission announces the following examinations: assembled, director of personnel, \$6,500; director of personnel, \$5,600; director of personnel, \$4,600; assistant director of personnel, \$5,600; assistant director of principal personnel, \$4,600; assistant director of personnel, \$3,800; un assembled, physicist (any specialized branch) \$5,600; senior physicist (any specialized branch) \$4,600; physicist (any specialized branch) \$3,800; associate physicist (any specialized branch) \$3,200; assembled, assistant physicist, \$2,600; junior physicist, \$2,000 (optional subjects--1. electricity, 2. heat, 3. mechanics, 4. optics, 5. sound). Applications must be on file not later than the following dates: (a) personnel, September 12, physicist, September 19, if received from states other than those named in b; (b) personnel, September 15, physicist, September 22, if received from the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

Standards  
for Food

Secretary Wallace has approved the recommendation of the Food and Drug Administration for the appointment in that organization of a Food Standards Committee, which will function under the new food, drug and cosmetic act. The Food and Drug Administration will perpetuate the food standards committee which has functioned for the last 25 years, reports W. G. Campbell, chief. This committee has consisted of representatives from the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists, the Association of Dairy, Food and Drug Officials of the United States and the Department. Members of the new committee are: for the Association of Official Agricultural Chemists; C. D. Howard, Director and Chief, Division of Chemistry and Sanitation, State Board of Health, Concord, New Hampshire; Guy G. Frary, State Chemist, Vermillion, South Dakota; for the Association of Dairy, Food and Drug Officials of the United States: J. J. Taylor, State Chemist, Department of Agriculture, Tallahassee, Florida; Mrs. F. C. Dugan, Director, Bureau of Foods, Drugs and Hotels, State Board of Health, Louisville, Kentucky; for the Food and Drug Administration: W. B. White, Chief, Food Division, W. S. Frisbie, Chief, Division of State Cooperation.

## Pan-American

Plans for the establishment of a Pan-American School of Agriculture as a unit of the Louisiana College of Agriculture, to open in September 1939, and to be devoted to a study of the farm problems of South and Central American countries, has been announced by Dr. James M. Smith, president of the University. Establishment of the school is one project of a proposed program of cooperation between the University and the governments and universities of South and Central America, which includes the exchange of students and instructors and the erection of a Pan-American house on the L.S.U. campus for exchange students. The ultimate goal of the program is to promote better cultural, social and commercial relations between the United States and Central and South America, Dr. Smith said. (New York Times.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXX, No. 34

Section 1

August 18, 1938

**WHEAT SUBSIDY,** Secretary Wallace announced yesterday that he hoped  
**COTTON LOAN** to have a plan perfected within a week to subsidize the export of about 100,000,000 bushels of surplus wheat during the current wheat year. With the country facing the second largest wheat harvest on record and possessing a record carryover, and with wheat production in other lands also at a high point, the Secretary said that it appeared that some such plan would be necessary to assure American farmers their normal share of the world wheat market. (New York Times.)

A report in the Baltimore Sun also says that Mr. Wallace pointed out that, under the provisions of the farm act, it now is up to the Department of Agriculture to provide a loan on this year's cotton crop. The loan, he said, probably would be in the neighborhood of 8.25 cents per pound. Its detailed provisions probably will be announced next week. The cotton loan became mandatory, he noted, when the price at ten spot markets on Monday averaged 8.20 cents per pound. Under the statute loans must be offered when the spot prices fall below 52 percent of the parity price. Fifty-two percent of parity is 8.25 cents. Although the cotton loan is expected further to increase the huge stocks of this commodity which the Government has on hand, Secretary Wallace said no plans were under consideration to subsidize cotton exports.

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**TOBACCO** A number of south Georgia bright leaf tobacco markets  
**MARKETS** prepared to end the 1938 auction season yesterday, says a Waycross report by the Associated Press, but already the dollar value of the crop had reached an all-time high, with an official tabulation showing that \$17,646,495.84 was paid growers through the first twelve days of sales. The 15 auction centers handled a total of 82,050,535 pounds of leaf during the 12 days, but this volume did not approach the 1930 record of 103,305,159 pounds. The 1930 crop sold for only \$10,767,000, however, a figure that the 1938 sales had exceeded in the first seven days of the auctions. Official figures were not available on the 15 Georgia markets for this week, but sales on any one market would have pushed the season total above the previous high record. That was the \$17,670,567.90 paid for the 1936 crop, when 84,299,126 pounds moved from south Georgia farmers through the warehouses.

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**DAIRY SITUATION** The Bureau of Agricultural Economics predicted yesterday that heavy production of dairy products and accumulation of large surpluses probably would prevent normal seasonal price rises this fall and winter. Milk production was the highest since 1929 and was 4 percent above the record of a year ago. (Associated Press.)  
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**Hog Income Report**                      Hog producers last year realized a cash income of \$906,525,000 from sales of hogs, pork and lard, according to the third of a series of commodity income estimates by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, dating back to 1909. The 1937 income dropped somewhat from the \$964,682,000 received in the preceding calendar year, but was more than double that of 1932 and about a third larger than the pre-war average of \$678,000,000. Income from hogs has varied greatly during the 1909 to 1937 period covered by the estimates. It trebled from 1909 to 1919 when war demand and price inflation raised the income to a high of \$1,911,000,000. It dropped to less than one-fourth of this amount at the bottom of the depression in 1932. The most important factor in determining income changes, the Bureau said, has been changes in price, which have reflected changes in supply and changes in domestic and export demand. Prices of hogs reached their low point in 1932 when they dropped 80 percent below prices received in the peak year 1919 and were 65 percent lower than in 1937. Changes in consumer purchasing power are an important factor affecting hog prices and the farm income from hogs, according to the Bureau. Since 1920, the changes in farm income from hogs have followed fairly closely the changes in industrial payrolls. The foreign demand for hog products also was a factor of some importance. In these years more than 10 percent of hog products was exported. The Bureau's estimates of cash income do not include government payments.

**Freeze Surplus Fruit**                      For a number of years, food specialists of the U. S. Bureau of Chemistry and Soils have been studying and improving methods of preparing and keeping frozen fruit pulp which may be used in making fruit ice cream, fruit sherbet, and other by-products. Fully ripe fruit, when flavor is at its peak, is crushed to a pulp or puree, a predetermined amount of sugar or syrup is added and the mixture is frozen rapidly. Some of the original fruit, stored seven years ago, still is in storage and samples opened from time to time have been as high in quality as when fresh. The fruit is held at a storage temperature of zero F. (Pacific Rural Press, August 13.)

**Baby Combines Efficient**                      "The so-called 'baby' combine, little brother to the standard big grain combines, is rapidly increasing in popularity in this country," says Pacific Rural Press (August 13). "These combines cut a swath of five or six feet, have a power take-off and are mounted on rubber tires. Tests recently completed by the U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Engineering have indicated that these 'babies' are just as efficient as the large combines and that they may be pulled at speeds of from a half a mile to a mile faster than the larger sizes. Some small machines operate satisfactorily at five miles an hour."



Farm Research      Secretary Wallace has outlined the four major farm-Laboratories      producing areas in which the four research laboratories authorized by the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 will be established. The areas are to be known as the Southern, Eastern, Northern, and Western major farm producing areas. The States included in these areas are: Southern Area: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Texas. Eastern Area: Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia. Northern Area: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Western Area: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. In deciding on this grouping of States, the Secretary took into account the distribution and type of agricultural production, farm population, farm income, value of farm property, total population, and other facts. "In addition to these facts," Secretary Wallace said, "it is of first importance that the research load among the four laboratories should be equalized and coordinated for the efficient performance of the task specified by Congress. This is especially necessary because the total funds available for these laboratories (\$4,000,000) must be equally divided among them." The Secretary announced that the initial work will be concentrated on the following farm commodities and their byproducts: In the southern laboratory, cotton, sweet potatoes, and peanuts; in the eastern laboratory, tobacco, apples, Irish potatoes, milk products, and vegetables; in the northern laboratory, corn, wheat and agricultural waste products; in the western laboratory, fruits (other than apples) and vegetables, Irish potatoes, wheat, and alfalfa.

Milk Bottle      A study by the Bureau of Dairy Industry shows that Study      "many consumers actually do not realize when they destroy or discard milk bottles that the bottle has value and that it is the property of the seller and not the buyer, as is the case with most containers in which food is purchased." The solution is easy to find. It lies simply in educating the consumer to the facts of the case. The average individual is essentially honest and has no desire to hold property which does not belong to him. Not that it will be easy to break a long-standing habit, but the effort will be worth while when it is considered that the average life of a bottle is 35 trips. (The Dairy Record, August 10.)

Income from      At one time cottonseed was considered worthless and Cottonseed      was dumped to get rid of it. Today, according to a recent report of the U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, cottonseed has greatly increased the total farm income of all cotton raisers. For the staple from the 1937 record production of cotton, farmers of this country received about 734 million dollars or about two percent less than the pre-war (1910-14). For the cottonseed from the record production last year, farmers received about 130 million dollars which was about 50 percent more than the pre-war average. (Pacific Rural Press, August 13.)



Mechanical Corn Picker      "Thousands of farmers who a decade ago swore allegiance to the husking pin and bangboard for husking corn from standing stalks in the field are now having their corn husked by mechanical corn pickers," says Schuyler Gaffney in the Farm Journal (September). "There is no use arguing about it. According to Department of Commerce figures released only a few weeks ago, eleven firms in 1937 made 13,586 corn pickers. Year before last, they built 4,720...The mechanical picker has had to wrestle with one big objection--the amount of corn left in the field. Indiana tests, in which the matter of losses was up for trial, showed that 2.75% of the corn was left in the field when a mechanical picker was used and 2% when the field was hand picked by the owner. With hired help, husking by hand, there was a 4% loss of corn...When comparing mechanical harvest of inbred and hybrid corn, tests showed that losses were twice as great with inbred varieties..."

More Meat Cuts      "The nation's housewives, who buy, prepare and serve the major portion of the country's meat supply, are buying their meat more often and in smaller packages than was true even ten to fifteen years ago," according to an article by Howard Biggar in Country Gentleman (September). "...Authorities in the field of retailing say that never in history have there been as many cuts available for the housewife when she goes shopping for meat. It would be easily possible, because of this wide variety, to serve a different meat dish every day for at least four months..."

Hardwoods Used in Book Paper      Possibilities of five hardwoods for use in the manufacture of book paper and rayon grade wood pulp are being investigated in the present program of research at the Herty Foundation laboratory, and some of the results are "promising," according to Dr. Charles H. Carpenter, chief chemist, in charge of operations. The five hardwoods on hand at the laboratory now, and on which research is being conducted, according to Dr. Carpenter, are black gum, red gum, white bay, cottonwood and willow. The pines on hand, and which are being used also in the experiments, are long leaf and loblolly. (Atlanta Constitution, August 10.)

Breed Cotton To Fit Picker      An editorial in Farm and Ranch (August 15) says in part: "Cotton picking machines have been made, which, under ideal conditions, have performed good service, but none, thus far, have been successful under all conditions. In practically all cases, machine picked cotton loses in grade. Engineers, who have been working on this problem for many years, have come to the conclusion that perhaps the best approach to the problem is through the plant breeder. They suggest a hybrid cotton as a possibility which would be more adapted to mechanical picking...a cotton plant that is not so rank in growth, but which will give a good yield of desirable staple."



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Vol. LXX, No. 35

Section 1

August 19, 1938

## U.S.-GERMAN TRADE VIEWS

"Germany would be delighted to pay the debt it owes the United States and to buy huge quantities of American cotton, wheat, lard and other raw materials, if the United States will still further reduce what is left of the debt and will buy even more from the Reich than the Reich buys from America, Rudolf Brinkmann, undersecretary in the ministry of economics, declared before the American Chamber of Commerce in Berlin Wednesday night," reports the Chicago Daily News Foreign Correspondent. "...There was nothing in his speech to indicate that the chances for negotiating a most-favored-nation treaty with the Reich are any better now than they were when Secretary of State Cordell Hull launched his trade policy four years ago--and the Nazis launched theirs..."

A report in the New York Times says German overtures for a trade treaty with the United States met with a cold reception in Washington yesterday when Secretary of State Hull said in effect that the Administration, dedicated to multilateral trade treaties, was not interested in bilateral exchange agreements. Secretary Hull at a press conference stipulated that he not be quoted directly but authorized an indirect exposition of his views.

## CANADIAN WHEAT CROP

Authoritative reports that the Canadian crop has been greatly overestimated gave Chicago wheat values 1 1/4 cents brisk advance yesterday, but gains failed to hold well. A wire from Yorktown, Saskatchewan said that stem rust had taken a frightful toll and that the Marquis variety of wheat in Canada would prove a failure. It was said the total yield of Canada's three prairie provinces would fall well below 295,000,000 bushels of millable wheat. Numerous recent forecasts have indicated 350,000,000 bushels. (Associated Press.)

## INTERCOASTAL FREIGHT RATES

Intercoastal freight rates on most commodities shipped east in the intercoastal trade will be increased, effective August 31, by the Intercoastal Freight Shipping Association, following the increases by the transcontinental railroads, says a press report. The shipping association effected increases of 5 and 10 percent on westbound freight on July 29, also because of the railroads' action. The Maritime Commission submitted no objection to the westbound increases and none is expected on the eastbound rates, it was said yesterday.



Rail-Motor  
Competition

"The action of the Interstate Commerce Commission in raising the freight rates charged by motor trucks in New England and the East Central States marks another stage in the Government's efforts to bring stability into the nation's transportation system," says an editorial in the New York Times (August 18). "...In attempting now to regulate truck rates, the commission faces a much more difficult duty than its supervision of the railroads. In the first place, there are about 150,000 truck operators to be overseen, compared with only about 100 important railroads and a few hundred large and small. Moreover, trucks that confine themselves to carrying various important products are completely exempt from rate control. So-called private carriers, such as the milk trucks, which transport the property of their owners, are also excluded. Thus the jurisdiction of the commission is seriously restricted in several directions. Nevertheless, the results of the present experiment will be watched with interest by all who desire greater stability in the industry. The problem of rail-motor competition is far from peculiar to the United States, and most of the countries of the world are having to contend with it. The problem is not one of favoring one form of transportation at the cost of another, but rather of preserving the advantages of each in a national transportation system in which each is an integrated and coordinated part. The commission seems so far to have shown commendable caution in its approach to a most difficult task."

Color of  
Corn Plants

"Increasing the amount of sun-red color in corn plants tends to increase the yield of grain, R. A. Brink, University of Wisconsin geneticist, has shown in experiments carried on since 1932," reports Niemen Hoveland in the Country Gentleman (September). "During two of the four years Brink compared sun-red corn with the ordinary type, he found that the former yielded best. In the other two years there was not enough difference to be statistically significant. In 1936 and 1937 Brink secured more evidence on the effect of color on yield by comparing corn of the ordinary color with corn containing no sun-red pigment at all. He made this study on experimental families of corn which have about equal numbers of the two types of plants. The investigation showed that in both years the plants containing some sun-red pigment out-yielded the pure greens by about 20 percent. Wisconsin plant breeders are planning to incorporate conspicuous amounts of the sun-red color into the stocks of hybrid corn released to seed growers in the future. Not only can this be expected to increase yields somewhat, but it has another advantage in that it will enable farmers to determine whether the seed they purchased was produced with proper care, simply by inspecting the crop in the field. All the plants grown from correctly crossed stock will carry the 'badge' of distinctive red color in the leaf sheaths, husks, and to some extent in the blades."



**Tobacco Act**                      A group of Oxford, N.C., warehouse owners challenged  
**Challenged**                      in the Supreme Court recently the validity of the Tobacco  
   Inspection act of 1935. The Federal law authorizes the  
agriculture secretary to regulate the inspection of tobacco at auction  
centers. The Fleming, Mangum, Johnson and Farmers' Warehouse Operators  
told the court the act was "calculated to hinder and destroy" their busi-  
ness. "Under the decisions of this court," they said, "agriculture and  
farming is a purely local activity, intrastate in character and not sub-  
ject to regulation by the Congress." The warehousemen appealed from the  
Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals which reversed a ruling by the Eastern  
North Carolina Federal District Court that the law was unconstitutional.  
(Richmond Times Dispatch, August 16)

**Undulant**                      "In the animal world there are certain diseases not  
**Fever**                      common to man, but which man may contract," says Eoline C.  
   Dubois, M.D., in the Farm Journal (September). "...The  
latest addition to this list is undulant fever, one which has been known  
for many years in Europe and is now attracting considerable attention  
among breeders of stock everywhere. And the reason is that this disease  
(known as Bang's Disease in cattle) is a very expensive one for owners  
since it results in still-births among the cows. It doesn't always kill  
the animals and the cows still continue to give milk. But this milk carries  
the germ of undulant fever and whoever drinks it raw is in danger of con-  
tracting the disease. The symptoms of undulant fever are very much the  
same as those of any infection, pains all over, headache and a fever last-  
ing several days. The joint pains may be quite severe and the fever con-  
tinue for perhaps two or three weeks so that typhoid fever is often sus-  
pected and sometimes rheumatism...To prevent the disease is the important  
point and the Department of Agriculture is making every effort to eradicate  
it in animals, but inasmuch as it occurs also in hogs as well as in goats,  
the problem of getting rid of it is a difficult one. The important and  
most interesting fact for us all is that wherever the pasteurization of  
milk becomes a law, there are no cases of this fever unless one is in con-  
tact with infected animals."

**Conservation**                      "Under the title, 'Conservation of Natural Resources,'  
**Literature**                      the American Association for the Advancement of Science has  
   issued a selected list of literature dealing with various  
aspects of the subject," says Nature (London, August 6). "...The literature  
covers a wide range of subjects, including land use, which in this con-  
tinent is especially bound up with the subject of soil erosion; forestry  
and afforestation....The inclusion of a section on the conservation of  
wild-life serves to show how important is this question, both in and out  
of the national parks which are of increasing value to the States."



Hybrid Corn  
Research

The leading article in the August 13 Prairie Farmer is "Hybrid Corn--Marvel of Farm Research." It says in part: "Sons of two great farm families, in particular, Henry A. Wallace of the Iowa Wallaces and E. D. Funk of the Illinois Funks, attacked the problem, seeking to produce 'double-cross' seed which they could place upon the market with assurance that it would be better than their established common strains. Henry A. Wallace cooperated with the Iowa Experiment Station. E. D. Funk advised and provided facilities for the work of Dr. James R. Holbert. Practically every experiment station geneticist turned the full facilities of his fields and laboratories upon the problem. Some devoted themselves and their associates to particular phases of the problem. For example, A. M. Marston, Michigan, with the European cornborer threatening, while others burned stalks, established quarantines, plowed under fields, devoted several years to developing a cornborer-resistant strain. In Illinois, with chinch bugs menacing and ruining, Dr. W. P. Flint, working with U.S.D.A. Holbert and Geneticist C. M. Woodworth, studied chinch-bug and grasshopper-resistant varieties...From it all, commercial production of 'double-cross' hybrids has emerged...With hybrid corn emerging from the laboratories and experimental fields, into big business enterprises, the leading companies did just what other big industrial concerns in all lines have done. They established their own private research departments, and with a few notable exceptions, went to the fountain heads of research, the U.S.D.A. and state experiment stations and hired the best geneticists and plant breeders that could be pried loose..."

Efficiency  
of Combines

"Careful tests made at Ohio State University with small combines showed surprisingly low grain losses and high general efficiencies," says I. W. D. in the Pennsylvania Farmer (August 13). "...During the 1937 tests there were heavy rains, most of the grain had many green weeds, and complete lodging was common. In spite of these conditions and the excessive loss behind the cutter bar, the highest total loss for a combine after proper adjustment was 125 pounds of grain per acre in heavy wheat while some went as low as 41 pounds per acre on wheat making 16.7 bushels per acre. In general the cutter bar losses were always more than half the total losses by the binder and thresher method. These tests also showed the great importance of proper adjustments in reducing grain losses, especially when conditions are unfavorable. One combine as adjusted by a poor operator had a total grain loss of 420 pounds per acre, most of this being from the rack and shoe; but after three field changes the total losses were reduced still further by more difficult adjustments. Another as found had a total loss of 315 pounds per acre, and with five field adjustments the total losses were reduced to about 65 pounds per acre. On the other hand, a farmer operator who had studied his instructions carefully and tested the cylinder, rack and shoe losses separately had his adjustments so good that his total losses were down to about 25 pounds per acre, even under the 1937 conditions."



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Section 1

August 22, 1938

## COURSE IN WEATHER FORECASTING

In an effort to meet the constantly increasing demands of industrial concerns, public agencies and even large recreational centers for trained weather forecasters, New York University has announced that a new Department of Meteorology would be opened at the College of Engineering next month. The new department, which is an outgrowth of courses in meteorology started at the university several years ago by Professor Edmund Woodman, will be headed by Professor Athelston F. Spilhaus. Gardner Emmons, for the last two years associate meteorologist at the central office of the United States Weather Bureau in Washington, has been named as assistant professor in the department. (New York Times, August 22.)

## BELTSVILLE BUILDING

With preliminary work completed, actual construction will start today on a \$4,200,000 improvement program at the National Agriculture Research Center, <sup>Beltsville,</sup> it was announced yesterday by Earl C. Sanford, superintendent. The first phase of the program will be construction of three new general purpose laboratories and a cold storage laboratory. The Bureau of Chemistry and Soils and the Food and Drug Administration will use two of the laboratories. It has not been decided what unit of the Agriculture Department will be assigned the other general purpose laboratory. The program also includes construction of new barns, improvements to roads and fences and the installation of new facilities at the Patuxent game research refuge. (Washington Post, August 19.)

## KEYNES STORAGE PLAN

The United Kingdom would become a vast warehouse for storing surplus empire foodstuffs and raw materials under a sweeping plan advanced by Prof. John Maynard Keynes to keep this country from starvation during "the next war." Prof. Keynes described the scheme in a paper--read in his absence--before the British Association for the Advancement of Science. "My proposal," said Prof. Keynes, "is that the government should offer storage to all empire producers of specified raw materials, free of warehouse charges and for a nominal interest charge, provided they ship their surplus produce to approved warehouses in this country." (Associated Press, August 20.)

## SOVIET EXHIBIT POSTPONED

The Soviet Union's agricultural exhibition has been formally postponed for another year by the closing session of the Supreme Soviet (Parliament). The exhibition originally was planned for 1937. Nikita C. Khrushchev, secretary of the Communist Party for the Ukraine, charged that "wrecking" had hampered both planning of the exhibit and erection of pavilions. The postponement was not believed to have any connection with this year's crop prospects. (Washington Post, August 22.)



New Technique in Standards      C. B. Sherman, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, writing in the Agricultural Situation (August) on "New Techniques in Standardization", says in part: "Whereas in previous years it was often necessary to describe a factor of quality in rather general terms, it is now possible to give it a specific value... Extensive and intricate apparatus, much of it developed or designed by members of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, are used in the bureau's cotton standardization laboratories. Here the rooms are equipped with special skylights, and subjected to practical or complete air conditioning and to humidification. Among the special laboratory equipment more readily understood are an improved cotton-fiber sorting machine that permits the measuring of fiber lengths with a high degree of accuracy, a bundle fiber test for strength of cotton fibers, and an improved cotton-waste analyser that separates the different elements in the waste. A saccharimeter is used to determine the sugar content of grapes, a sugar acid test is made to learn the maturity of citrus fruits, and the specific gravity test is used to learn the maturity of cantaloups in the states that have laws prohibiting the shipment of immature melons. Penetrometers ascertain the consistency of certain canned products such as canned pumpkin, hydrometers test the density of sirups, salinometers test brine solutions, and a fruit pressure tester to ascertain the maturity of canned peaches and pears is in process of development... Notable progress has been made in developing techniques and apparatus for measuring color in a practical way. The technicians are studying changes in cotton colors and the conditions or combinations of conditions that are likely to bring about these changes. Degrees of color are quality indicators of commodities as far apart as hay and canned tomatoes. Grain standardization and grading work has produced many official inventions. Ten public-service patents have been issued to bureau workers in this field alone. Devices include the Boerner sampler for determining the test weight per bushel of grain--one of the chief grading factors. A standard method of determining the protein content of wheat has been developed and is now in use."

Three New Peaches      "Three new peaches, one a cling, the other two free-stones, have just been officially released by their originator, George P. Weldon, pomologist at the Chaffey Junior College in Ontario, California," says the Farm Journal (September). "Named the Fontana (cling) and the George Weldon and Chaffey (freestones), all are resistant to delayed foliation, one of the major problems of deciduous fruit growers of Southern California and other areas where mild winters prevail. George Weldon, a large, yellow-fleshed freestone, a cross between an Elberta hybrid and Babcock, ripens about the first week in July in southern California. Chaffey freestone, white-fleshed, cross between the Lukens Honey and Elberta, ripens after August 1. Both of these freestones promise the fresh fruit market a treat. Fontana cling, firm, yellow, has the good points of Sims, and ripens just after Sims, is quite sweet and excellent for canning."



Typhoid in Turkeys      "From a study of fowl typhoid among turkeys it appears that, while it may occur at any time, most disastrous outbreaks have been among half-grown stock on range. According to Drs. L. Van Es and J. F. Olney (Nebraska Experiment Station Bulletin No. 290) two common methods of the turkeys' acquiring it have been reported," says J. R. Redditt, Extension Poultry Husbandman, University of Nebraska, in Country Gentleman (September). "First, the germs are taken into the body with contaminated feed and drinking water; second, it is acquired through the egg from the parent stock as in the case of pullorum disease. The symptoms of fowl typhoid so closely resemble those of fowl cholera, that bacteriological examinations are necessary to determine which of the two diseases is present... Since outbreaks of turkey typhoid are more likely to occur along in September when turkeys are about half-grown, many turkey growers in their efforts to combat disease try to avoid close confinement on barren and poorly drained yards. Herding too many turkeys in one flock is also dangerous. The practice many growers have of moving all roosting sheds and feeding and watering equipment to new ground every week or two seems to be as effective in maintaining clean environment as the other plan of using permanent quarters and fixtures equipped with necessary guards and precautions for insuring cleanliness."

N.Y. Electric Farm Plan      The flip of a switch last week transformed 200 acres of Monroe County (N.Y.) farm land on the shores of Lake Ontario into a research laboratory to determine the efficiency of electricity as the farmer's operating agent, says an Associated Press report from Rochester. F. J. Freestone, chairman of the State Farm Power and Light Committee, gave the signal which started electricity to work on the proving farm, which is sponsored by the committee and a group of electric manufacturing companies. Company engineers said they were aiming at three objectives, proving the necessity and benefits of electric power to more than 3,000,000 farms with dwellings valued in excess of \$500 which still are without electric service, demonstrating additional jobs and time-saving methods possible with electric power on the 1,250,000 farms in the \$500 bracket which are receiving electric service, and improving designs of electrified farm machinery and appliances. Time studies have been made of all major home, field and barn operations on the farm and these will be compared at the end of a year with the same work performed with electric power. B. P. Hess, one of the engineers, said that for the first time on a large scale the electric utility industry and manufacturers of farm equipment were cooperating to make a practical long-time survey on findings which indicate that farming pays bigger dividends when it puts electricity to work.

Tenants Buy Farms      The start of a swing away from farm tenancy and toward land ownership in the rural south was described recently by T. Roy Reid, Director of Region 6 under the Farm Security Administration, says a Miami report by the Associated Press. At a conference of his region, which includes Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana,



and Region 5, which includes Florida, Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina, Reid said the pendulum which has swung rapidly toward farm tenancy in the past has given evidence of reversing. Tenancy totals 60 percent for his region, but Reid disclosed that last year one out of 19 borrowers from the FSA, or 1,400 persons, had accumulated sufficient reserves to make a down payment or reach an agreement for the purchase of land. (Atlanta Constitution, August 17.)

U.S.-British                      "The delegation from the American Association for the Science Plan      Advancement of Science and the British Association for the Advancement of Science have agreed on a first step in establishing an Anglo-American accord for the social interpretation of science," reports Waldemar Kaempffort in a Cambridge, England, wireless to the New York Times. "Each association is to invite annually distinguished members of the other to deliver lectures which will be addressed both to scientists and the public. It was further agreed that collateral honorary membership would be established in both associations... It now remains for the American association to act on the plan. The American delegation seems certain that approval will be given and that the first exchange of lectures will cross the Atlantic next year. British representatives are to attend the summer meeting of the American association..."

N.D.Wheat                      North Dakota wheat goes to California in the winter, Breeding                      returns to its homeland--in more numerous quantities--in the spring. It's the way Dr. L. R. Waldron of North Dakota Agricultural College has of speeding up an increase of his new wheat, No. 2772. Last fall, he sent two pounds of the grain to the experiment station scientists at El Centro, California, requesting they plant it. The California station grew enough of this leaf-and-stem-rust-resistant wheat to plant 8 acres at the North Dakota station this spring. A limited amount of this variety of wheat will be distributed under contract next year. Sending seed to California is one of several methods used to hasten wheat-breeding work to produce desired varieties for Dakota farmers. (Dakota Farmer, August 13.)

U.S.D.A.Flax                      A special flax investigation has been started in Investigation      Oregon with the assignment of W.M.Hurst, Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, and E.G.Nelson, Bureau of Plant Industry, to study different phases of the flax industry in western Oregon. Hurst has established headquarters at Oregon State College, where Nelson was already stationed carrying on production research. Hurst's first objective will be to find ways, if possible, to cheapen the harvesting and processing of fiber flax in existing plants. Large amounts of hand labor have so far handicapped the three cooperative processing plants. If Hurst succeeds in improving the methods in existing plants, he will then attempt to design more ideal setups for Oregon conditions. Nelson is studying more simplified retting processes and will investigate the comparative value of pulled and cut flax for retting. Both men have had considerable experience in handling specialty crops. (Oregon State College News Service.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXX, No. 37

Section 1

August 23, 1938

## REPORT

### WHEAT

### AGREEMENT

Paul W. Ward reports from London to the Baltimore Sun: "It is reported reliably here that the impending Anglo-American trade agreement will give American wheat growers the same access to the British market as Canadian and Australian growers. Baltimore and other Atlantic seaboard ports will benefit because it will abolish the Ottawa provision which requires Canadian growers to ship through Canadian ports if they wish to obtain imperial preference. The preference amounts to 6 cents a bushel."

The Sun also includes a Washington bureau report that State Department officials, following the rule which has prevailed throughout the current negotiations for the British-American trade treaty, declined to comment tonight on this London report.

## DISCUSS

### FARM

### PROBLEM

Administration farm leaders described the farm problem confronting the nation as perhaps the most difficult since the 1934-36 drought period, says an Associated Press report. Good crop-growing weather during the last two seasons, the business recession and unsettled world conditions have combined, they said, to complicate the agricultural situation despite governmental efforts to increase prices and income. The difficulty arises from the fact that supplies of farm products are far in excess of the demand at current prices. Secretary Wallace, who conferred with President Roosevelt during the week-end, said recently that unless farmers cooperated wholeheartedly with the new crop control law, a price collapse might follow. (New York Times.)

## REA

### ALLOTMENTS

The Rural Electrification Administration allotted \$13,175,600 yesterday for construction of country power lines, wiring of farm houses and installation of plumbing in 26 States. The Administration said the money would be used to construct 12,118 miles of lines which would make electric service available to more than 40,000 farm families. (Press.)

## BANK

### LOANS UP

Commercial, industrial and agricultural bank loans increased last week for the second week. The Federal Reserve Board said yesterday that banks in 101 leading cities increased their business advances \$11,000,000 to \$3,900,000,000. New York City banks boosted their commercial and industrial credits by \$10,000,000 and banks in the Chicago district by \$6,000,000, while in other districts these loans declined slightly. (Washington Post.)



Hybrid Corn  
Articles

The August 13 issues of the Nebraska Farmer, Wallaces' Farmer, Wisconsin Agriculturist, and Kansas Farmer are devoted principally to articles on hybrid corn. One of them, "Husking Hybrids with Machines," in Wallaces' Farmer, says: "While mechanical corn picking has been steadily displacing hand picking, the general use of hybrid seed seems likely to hasten that process. The chief reason why mechanical pickers operate more efficiently in hybrid corn is that the corn stands up better...The higher yields of hybrid reduce harvesting costs considerably when a mechanical picker is used. Hand husking is usually done on a bushel basis. But with a mechanical husker, it costs just about so much per acre regardless of yield. In tests in Illinois, for instance, two-row pickers averaged 52 bushels per hour in medium yielding corn, and 72 bushels in high yielding fields. Since the acre cost was about the same in both cases, the cost per bushel was considerably less in the high yielding corn...The Illinois tests showed that on typical farms from 50 to 70 percent of the husking labor was hired when the work was done by hand, while with machines the amount hired was less than 30 percent...The Iowa Experiment Station found a great labor difference in favor of machine husking, probably due largely to higher acre yields in Iowa. In fields averaging 70 bushels per acre, the station found nine hours of man labor required for husking by hand, and only 2.5 hours when a machine was used. The best time for machine husking to begin, in the opinion of the agricultural engineers at Ames, is as soon as the corn is dry enough to crib, and in two years out of three it should be completed by the middle of November...The sort of corn which a hand husker prefers may be the very worst kind for machine husking. Ordinary open-pollinated Reid's Yellow Dent carries a large ear on a small shank and breaks easily. This condition makes it fine for the man who is husking by hand, but the tendency is for the machine to lose too many ears in corn of this type. This is why the science of breeding corn is tied up so closely with the development and improvement of the mechanical corn picker..."

Farm Products  
Demand

A moderate improvement in consumer buying power and demand for farm products is in prospect for the fall and winter months, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics says. The Bureau points out that definite improvement in industrial activity and further depletion of inventories occurred during July. Though these factors indicate further increases in the output of consumers' goods and services, no large amount of forward buying is in prospect for the near future. This should help to sustain the improvement in future months, it was stated, but also implies a less sharp initial upswing than has occurred in many recovery periods.



Snow                                "Improvements in equipment and technique used in  
Surveys                            making snow surveys have reached a point where runoff  
                                 predictions are dependable and accurate to a remarkable  
degree," says an editorial in Engineering News-Record (August 18). "The  
almost exact prediction three months in advance of the runoff yielded by  
an important drainage basin, represents an achievement of great value to  
power companies, irrigated lands and areas subjected to flood menace.  
Under the direction of Dr. J. E. Church, University of Nevada, the inter-  
change of ideas and information on snow surveys has been extended to  
world-wide scope, and an International Commission of Snow is functioning  
effectively. This undertaking promises to increase the value and pre-  
cision of snow surveys still further and make them a regular part of  
hydrological studies on all important water sheds that have snow sources."

Squibb                            E. R. Squibb & Sons has announced the creation of an  
Research                          industry-supported research enterprise dedicated to pure  
Institute                        science in the medical and biological fields, comparable  
                                 with the Bell Telephone and General Electric laboratories  
in the sphere of physics, says the New York Times, August 22. The Squibb  
company has completed a new laboratory building at a cost of \$750,000 in  
New Brunswick, N.J., to house the new enterprise under the name of the  
Squibb Institute for Medical Research. Dr. George A. Harrop, formerly  
Associate Professor of Medicine in Johns Hopkins University and associate  
physician of Johns Hopkins Hospital, has been appointed director of re-  
search in direct charge of the institute. Dr. Harrop will also head the  
Division of Experimental Medicine. The staff includes Dr. Harry B. van  
Dyke, Dr. Geoffrey W. Rake, Dr. Erhard Fernholz, Dr. Hans Jensen, and  
William A. Lott.

Civil Service                    The Civil Service Commission announces an unassembled  
Examination                    examination to be held for Associate Warehouse Examiner,  
                                 \$3,200; Assistant Warehouse Examiner, \$2,600; Bureau of  
Agricultural Economics, Department of Agriculture; Optional subjects:  
(1) Bulk Grain Warehouses, (2) Canned Fruits and Vegetables, (3) Cotton  
Warehouses, (4) Sack Grain Warehouses. Applications must be on file not  
later than September 19, if received from states other than those named  
in (b), (b) September 22, if received from the following states: Arizona,  
California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah,  
Washington, Wyoming.

New                                An item in Farm Journal (September) says: "Going  
Milk                                over with a bang is the new farmer-owned milk bar opened  
Bar                                on Atlantic City's Boardwalk by Herbert Borden, field  
                                 manager for Interstate Milk Producers Cooperative. With-  
in three weeks after this only milk-to-drink bar was opened, 500 to 1,000  
people began to buy milk in preference to other drinks offered along the  
Boardwalk. Within a month a competitive store was opened on one of the  
resort city's busiest streets, and is doing a thriving business."



Small Factory Program                      Henry Ford's experiments in the decentralization of industrial operations, directed at giving employees "all the advantages of rural life with a city income," are reviewed by W. J. Cameron of the Ford Motor Company in a paper prepared for discussion during one of the technical sessions of the seventh International Management Congress to be held in Washington Sept. 19 to 23, says a column-length report to the New York Times, August 21. The paper reviews decentralization experiments which have been carried on by the company since 1917 and now embrace twenty-two small village plants within a fifty-mile radius of Dearborn, employing about 4,000 men and women. From the employee's point of view, the paper says, the benefits of decentralization include working in beautiful, small village surroundings, where noise and strain are reduced to a minimum; living in an American village, usually the employee's home town; country home life within an hour's ride of the city; an opportunity to supplement his earnings by subsistence farming and relative steadiness of employment. Among the advantages of decentralization to the employer, are an improved quality of work; development of a pride and skill seemingly impossible where the operation is part of a vast central factory, combining many close-coupled departments; greater employee interest in their work because they see and understand its place in the general industrial scheme; almost no labor turnover and restoration of the personal relationship between management and employee which is lost, he holds, in large mass-production plants.

Cottonseed Oil Record                      Business Week (August 20) reports: "Consumption of cottonseed oil, in the crop year ended July 31, set an all-time record as expected. Disappearance (which is the only available indication of actual consumption) totaled 4,268,703 bbl. in 1937-38 against 2,970,178 in 1936-37. During much of the season just ended, the price of cottonseed oil was low enough to shut off imports pretty effectively. Price, too, was one of the factors which encouraged record consumption due to the fact that low quotations largely prevented substitution of competing edible oils. Low price in much of the past season may be attributed to the large production--upwards of 4,500,000 bbl.--plus the carryover of 1,157,900 bbl. Production and carryover added up to a supply of something like 5,700,000 bbl. Going into the new season, the trade expects 1938-39 production to be less than 3,000,000 bbl. on the basis of the government estimate of 11,988,000 bales of cotton. Carryover is put at 1,533,100 bbl., or a total for 1938-39 of 4,533,000 bbl. Consumption as large this season as last would reduce the carryover for the 1939-40 season to less than 300,000 bbl. That would be very bullish--except that cottonseed oil prices have been very much better of late. It is assumed that consumption will decline this year, or that cheaper oils will compete, or both. The trade's price ideas remain contradictory."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

August 24, 1938.

## FOSSIL APE HAD HUMAN TEETH

The announcement of the discovery in South Africa by Dr. Robert Broom of the fossil of a hitherto unknown anthropoid ape has left anthropologists of the British Association for the Advancement of Science with a feeling that all props have been kicked from under them. They are floundering in a sea of doubt, knowing less about the origin of man than ever, Waldemar Kaempffert reports to the N.Y. Times from Cambridge, England. Or, as Sir Arthur Keith put it, "this discovery has destroyed the finer points we anthropologists depend on for drawing the line between anthropoid and man." Dr. Broom's fossil differs from the two living African anthropoids, the chimpanzee and gorilla, in important respects. Anthropologists hitherto relied upon teeth in drawing a line between ape and man. But this fossil anthropoid has human teeth, set in an ape's skull.

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## SKYLINE DRIVE EXTENSION

President Roosevelt yesterday discussed with Fred C. Martin, Democratic candidate for Governor of Vermont, and Frank Duffy, Vermont Democratic chairman, plans for a road starting at the Canadian line in the Green Mountains, down through the Berkshires, the Delaware water gap, to a point near Harper's Ferry, and to connect with the present Skyline Drive in the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia. The Washington Post also reports plans looking to preservation of Cumberland Gap as a national historical park, monument or historic site.

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## AERONAUTICS EMPLOYEES TRANSFERRED

The Civil Aeronautics Authority, which formally took over the task of regulating commercial aviation in this country, yesterday issued a series of orders and regulations to the industry. These first official acts of the Authority indicated that for the present at least no drastic changes were contemplated. President Roosevelt also issued an executive order which confirms the several hundred employees of the Bureau of Air Commerce in their present employment but transfers the jurisdiction over them to the new agency from the Department of Commerce. (N.Y. Times)

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## EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Approximately 40,000 factory workers returned to employment in July and weekly payrolls increased almost \$500,000, Secretary Perkins of the Department of Labor announced yesterday. This indicated, she said, "a definite improvement in the employment situation." (Press)

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Farm Business      In its "Business Outlook" section, Business Week (August 20) says under, "Farm Income and Purchases":  
"The sharp deflation of farm prices is having its unfavorable influence on farm buying. The curtailment of operations by the largest agricultural machinery company is a symptom here. It seems most probable, however, that the farm price drop is near its end. Despite the avoidance of a corn referendum and temporary avoidance of a cotton loan by revisions announced at the Department of Agriculture, the government will necessarily support farm income. Later in the year the acreage reduction may come to the fore, and agricultural prices move ahead again."

Competing Foods      "One question naturally arises," says an editorial note in The Nation's Agriculture (September) "in connection with all these 'eat more' campaigns. Obviously, there is a limit to the possibilities of increasing consumption. Some hold to the opinion that if more of one food product is sold, less of another will be used, and that therefore agriculture as a whole is little better off than it would be without special advertising and promotion of certain food products. There is something to be said for such a theory, but in practice it probably does not work that way. It is likely, for instance, that a glass of orange juice and a glass of milk could be added to the daily diet of every individual in the country without reducing the consumption of any other food. In fact, many will say that individual appetites will be increased by the orange juice and milk."

Review Cotton Cooperatives      American Cotton Grower (August) includes "The Story of the Year", a review of developments in the cotton year ending July 31, 1938, and devoting special attention to activities of cooperative marketing agencies. It says in part: "The volume of business handled by the member associations of the American Cotton Cooperative Association, as might have been expected in such a large crop year, increased in baleage sharply over the preceding season; and in percentage of the crop compared favorably with the volume handled in any other normal marketing year. Only one state suffered a drastic reduction in deliveries, and that was for a reason that will be later explained."

The issue also includes articles: "Trade Agreements and the South", by Francis Bowes Sayre; "Classing Service for One-Variety Farmers", by Carl H. Robinson, BAE; and "Bales for Bonds", by Jack Fleming.

July 1 Wheat Carryover      Stocks of old wheat in the United States at the beginning of the 1938-39 season on July 1 are estimated at 154,072,000 bushels, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics says. These stocks compare with a revised estimate of 83,214,000 bushels of old wheat on hand July 1, 1937. This year for the first time, old and new wheat were reported separately by merchant mills, making possible a statement of stocks of old wheat only.



Fertility  
Programs

An editorial note, "A Sense of Humus", in Country Life (London, August 13) says in part: "'Fertility of the Soil' is the latest slogan in agricultural politics, but many who shout it forget that neither hastily organized measures nor farming practice can contribute as much to that end as the old-fashioned horse used to do. Elementary as the paradox is, the disappearance of the horse from cities has been one of the main factors in the decreasing fertility of the country. There is a general shortage of humus in our soil, and no amount of artificial manures can compensate for it. There are three great agricultural reformers in England today with methods for counteracting the shortage: Mr. Hosier, with his system of 'bailing' cattle and poultry; Professor Stapledon, who is to read an important paper to the British Association next week on his system of 'leys'--plowed and sown pastures; and Sir Albert Howard, who invented the 'Indore' system of manufacturing humus from vegetable and animal refuse in India...Millions of tons of life-giving 'waste' are wasted yearly for lack of organization, which, if properly used, would multiply by three the supply of farmyard manure. Here is a way in which a progressive agricultural policy could immediately, and doubly, benefit both town and country."

Asst. Chief  
of O.E.S.

R. W. Trullinger of the Office of Experiment Stations has been appointed Assistant Chief, a position recently established to facilitate handling of the increased duties and responsibilities of that agency. Mr. Trullinger's duties will pertain to the administration of the Federal-grant funds for agricultural research in the States, Territories, and Puerto Rico, and will include advice and assistance to experiment stations in matters of organization, policy, conduct of work, personnel, and relationships. He also will have administrative oversight of Experiment Station Record.

Traffic  
Code  
Revised

Washington Review by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States says in the August 22 issue: "Revision up to date of the Uniform Vehicle Code, the Model Traffic Ordinances and the Manual of Uniform Traffic Signs, Signals, and Markings, now in use in a majority of the states, was undertaken at committee meetings of the National Conference on Street and Highway Safety held recently at Chamber headquarters. These standards, originally prepared in 1926, were reviewed and revised by previous National Conferences in 1930 and 1934. The present revisions are designed to bring to bear the experience of the last four years. Few changes in the standards were found to be needed..."

Sheep  
Population

.. The United States continues to be the third largest sheep-raising country of the world, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Only Australia and Russia outnumber the United States as sheep-raising countries. Sheep numbers on farms in the United States totaled nearly 53 million on January 1 this year. This represents about 8 percent of the world total of more than 700 million. (Utah Farmer, August 15.)



Sleeping                    "Sleeping sickness is quite prevalent among the  
Sickness                   horses throughout Iowa," the Des Moines Register (August 14)  
In Iowa                   reports, "but proper attention and care have tended to cut  
                         losses from the disease, according to Harry Linn, field  
secretary of the Iowa Horse Breeders' association. Localities in which  
a large percentage of the horses were vaccinated have reported fewer sick  
horses than in areas where little early vaccinating was done. Development  
of new types of vaccine and lowering of the price for vaccinating have  
tended to help control the disease, he said, and farmers are less hyster-  
ical and panicky regarding sleeping sickness than they were last year. A  
new type vaccine made through use of chick embryo treatment has proven  
very satisfactory and of quicker action than other types. Linn said that  
vaccination now can be done for from \$3 to \$4 instead of somewhat higher  
prices prevailing previously."

Apple, Pear                Improved market outlets for American apples and pears  
Prospects                are expected in Europe during the coming marketing season,  
                         according to reports to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
from its London Office. The better prospects are attributed to reduced  
crops following spring frost damage in most European countries. In  
general, the apple crops in the important apple importing countries will  
range from moderate to poor this year. Apple crop prospects also are  
unfavorable in the principal European exporting districts. The United  
States, on the other hand, expects a crop about a third smaller than  
last year and 11 percent under the 10-year average. Prospects for the  
1938-39 pear export season are very favorable. Throughout Europe, pear  
prospects are rather poor. In England the crop may not be more than 20  
percent of average. A record pear crop is indicated in the United States,  
with heavy yields in prospect in the 3 Pacific Coast States. Thus, the  
record yields during 1938-39 coupled with poor European crop prospects  
indicate a heavy export movement of pears.

To Advertise              "A fund of a quarter of a million dollars was author-  
Turpentine                ized today for a national newspaper advertising program  
                         by the American Turpentine Farmers Association," says a  
Valdosta report to the Florida Times Union, August 12. Roll call showed  
143,000 units present which was more than the required quorum, therefore  
the amendment to the by-laws providing for a levy of 50 cents per unit  
for the advertising fund was brought to a vote. The campaign was ap-  
proved by a vote of 138,000 units for the levy and 5323 against. Presi-  
dent Langdale announced that the fund would be handled by a strong com-  
mittee to be named by the executive committee...A motion to reduce wages  
in the industry 10 percent was discussed and voted down..."

Interest                    Commending on the establishment of a new Division of  
In New                    Transportation in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics,  
Division                   Market Growers Journal (August 15) notes that vegetable  
                         growers "have an immense interest in the subject of trans-  
portation, and suggests that "The Vegetable Growers' Association of America  
will do well to get in touch with the activities of the new division in  
order that proper attention may be given to the requirements of our  
industry. When a new work is being established is by all odds the  
easiest and most satisfactory time to secure appropriate attention."



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Section 1

August 25, 1938

## DAIRYMEN FAVOR AGREEMENT

Indications yesterday were that producers of milk entering the New York City metropolitan market from seven states voted more than four to one in favor of a Federal-State milk marketing agreement regulating producer prices, according to Albany reports to the press. Wellington J. Griffith, Federal referendum agent, announced the estimate after a preliminary tabulation of the votes cast last week at nearly 300 polling places. Holton V. Noyes, State Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets, stated that about 86 percent of the New York dairymen had approved a proposed State order which will implement the Federal order as far as purely intra-state milk shipments are concerned.

## WALLACE TALKS ON SITUATION

Concerned with talk that agriculture is now in the same plight as it was in 1932, Secretary Wallace cited graphs and figures at his press conference yesterday to show that the farmers were, on the average, receiving nearly twice as much for their products as when the present administration came into power. Using December futures quotations, translated into farm values of the major crops, Mr. Wallace said those who are asserting the farmers are now facing such a situation of low prices as in 1932 were "either crazy or uninformed." He said the farmers' income this year is roughly \$7,500,000,000, as against \$4,323,000,000 in 1932. (New York Times.)

## INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE

The British Association for the Advancement of Science wound up its meeting today, says a cable to the New York Times, with the appointment of a committee to form the nucleus of a newly created division to deal with social and international relations of science. The division will be intimately affiliated with the association, but will be semi-autonomous in its organization. No official announcement of names was made.

## JULY INCOME UP

Secretary Roper said yesterday that, on a seasonal basis, national income improved in July for the first month in a year. The total of wages, dividends, rents and other sources of national income was slightly lower in July than in June, but did not go down by the usual seasonal amount, he explained. The seasonally adjusted index of income rose from 78.3 percent of the 1929 level in June to 79.1 percent in July. (Press.)



Rooting J. Glover of the East African Agricultural Research  
Derris Station reports in the East African Agricultural Journal,  
Cuttings experiments in treating the easily rooted cuttings of  
Derris elliptica with beta-indole-acetic acid. The substance, he says, "does increase the production of roots," and adds: "As the root system of Derris is the economically important part of the plant, it is of interest to know whether the treated plants will retain the lead already given them or whether after a time the control plants will 'catch up' and nullify the original gain. At the end of two months no overtaking is apparent and both sets of plants are producing roots at approximately the same rate. If this continues, then treatment by root-promoting substances may be of value in increasing the final yield of root."

Vitamin C In Canadian Public Health Journal (August) G.D.W.  
Antitoxin Cameron, University of Toronto, reports on variations in  
Response the levels of antitoxin developed in guinea pigs given  
different amounts of ascorbic acid on a diet deficient  
in natural vitamin C. His summary says: "Guinea pigs given vitamin C (ascorbic acid) subcutaneously in a dose sufficient only to maintain life and allow small weight gains, developed lower levels of antitoxin in response to diptheria toxoid than guinea pigs given a larger dosage of ascorbic acid sufficient to give good gains in weight and maintain pigs in a state more approaching normality."

Portable "To help farm-woodland owners obtain better returns  
Saw Mill from this crop the Forest Products Laboratory is completing designs for an entirely new type of portable band mill that will reduce waste in sawdust and poorly sawed lumber by 50 percent. The mill can be moved from farm to farm, as easily as a threshing machine....On the cutting end, the Laboratory find that trees below certain diameters, usually about 12 inches, are very poor prospects for lumber and should be left growing. So far as possible, pulpwood, posts, and fuel wood should be cut from thinnings and less thrifty trees, to give the better trees a chance to mature." (Maryland Farmer, August.)

Plants A leading article in The Commonwealth (August) is  
As Weapons "Vegetation for Soil Defense" by Barrington King of the  
Regional Office of the Soil Conservation Service at  
Spartanburg, S. C. The final paragraph says: "Farmers in the demonstration areas, with new weapons to fight the ancient enemy, are proving that the fight can be won. But it's going to take a lot more trees, shrubs, vines, and seed when the big offensive, outside the limited demonstration areas, really gets under way."



Good                    A report from Water Valley to the Jackson (Miss.)  
Melon                News (August 16) says: "Water Valley's big melon market-  
Season               ing for 1938 is being brought to a close with a profit of  
                     thousands of dollars to the community's farmers, and 137  
carloads of melons have been shipped from the county during the season.  
A higher average price than usual was paid throughout the season which  
saw the prices run from 35 cents to 50 cents per hundred pounds. The  
137 cars constituted about a half of the commercial crop, the remaining  
half having been trucked individually by growers to nearby Memphis, the  
Mississippi delta and other markets. The crop is estimated to have  
brought \$35,000 to the growers of the community."

Cheese                In the "One Word More" column in Atlanta Constitution  
In Texas             (August 16), Ralph McGill comments on "Texas and Cheese".  
                     He says in part: "Thirteen years ago the state of Texas  
produced exactly no cheese. Last year Texas cheese plants produced  
17,000 tons of cheese and Texas ranked sixth among the cheese-producing  
states. The story is a fascinating one. The Dallas News told it last  
week. An expert had been brought to Texas to survey the state as a  
potential cheese-producing state. He had turned thumbs down. One man,  
being stubborn, started a small plant at Denison, Texas. That was 12  
years ago. Today the state is spotted with cheese plants and the growth  
of dairy products has been amazing. The increase in production of milk,  
cream, ice cream, butter, condensed milk and evaporated milk has been  
really startling. There was noted a corresponding increase in sale of  
milk from farms. The farmers of Texas, in 1937, were paid more for their  
milk and milk products than for any other product except cotton. Milk  
brought more than beef; milk brought more than all the fields of grain  
and fruit; milk is gaining on cotton."

Bang's                No drug or combination of drugs has yet been found  
Disease             effective in the treatment of Bang's disease. Results  
Remedies            of recent tests of two alleged Bang's disease remedies  
                     confirm previous experience with such products. Con-  
ducted by the Bureau of Animal Industry and the University of Wisconsin,  
the tests showed the products to be of no value as either preventives or  
cures. Chemical analysis of the alleged remedies also failed to disclose  
any ingredients likely to have any beneficial effect in combating Bang's  
disease. Although no drug or medicinal compound has proved to be effec-  
tive against the disease, steady progress is being made by systematic  
testing of herds, the removal and slaughter of diseased animals, and  
maintenance of proper sanitary conditions. This work is conducted co-  
operatively by cattle owners, State livestock officials, and the Bureau  
of Animal Industry.



Naval Stores Transport      Its Washington bureau reports to Wall Street Journal (August 24) that: "The material advantage held by the railroads over the highway motor truck on hauling costs, even for such a short distance as 75 miles, is strikingly illustrated in another study of costs of transportation just completed by the interstate Commerce Commission's Bureau of Statistics, and confined to naval stores moving from Mississippi points to Gulf ports for export. It costs a motor truck 7.40 cents per 100 pounds, including a return of  $5\frac{3}{4}\%$  on investment, to haul rosin from Hattiesburg to Gulfport, Miss., a distance of 72 miles. The corresponding railroad cost, also including a return of  $5\frac{3}{4}\%$  on investment is 5.73 cents per 100 pounds. Excluding a return on investment, the costs are 4.14 cents for the railroad and 7.38 cents for the motor truck. In this particular instance the railroads successfully sought to reduce their rate from 11 cents to 6 cents per 100 pounds. The truck rate is now 8.5 cents. The railroads were led to propose reductions in their naval stores rates because this industry recently, due to a new process for extracting rosin, turpentine and pine oil from waste pine stumpage, has grown by leaps and bounds."

Business and Harvest      Business Bulletin (Aug. 15) published by The Cleveland Trust Co. says: "The present improvement in business is unmistakable, but it has not yet lasted long enough to let us know whether or not it is producing the developments that would insure a durable recovery. One important fundamental element in its favor is that we are probably going to have this year one of the largest agricultural harvests in our history. The prices will be lower than those of last year but nevertheless the prospective abundant harvests constitute a most favorable factor in the economic outlook. The most threatening factor is the danger of another great war in the Orient."

20,000 Tons In Trench Silos      "Ranching, 1938 Style", which Farmer's Digest (Sept.) reprints from Acco Press, describes the three Reed & Snyder ranches in Montana. One section is devoted to trench silos: "The feeding program is one that staggers imagination. At Whiteface headquarters alone there are 14 trench silos. All are 16 feet wide at the top and 12 feet wide at the bottom. Each is 10 feet deep. The longest trench is 400 feet. At Whiteface 8000 tons of ensilage were stored last year--20,000 tons in all at the three feeding pens; and that, I remind you, is a lot of feed. 'It's the solution to the cattle feeding problem,' said Mr. Snyder. 'The feed keeps perfectly and indefinitely. There is no loss in weight as is the case when it is stacked above ground and no damage from wind, rain or dust.' The rows of trenches were dug by fresnos pulled by teams and by tractors and by the draglines of dirt contractors called in at a last moment to get the job done. Corn and grain sorghums were bought by the ton from the farmers in the neighborhood. Mr. Snyder estimates that the cost of digging the silos, cost of the feed and of putting it away underground was \$5 a ton last fall. With the abundance of feed this year, however, and with the trenches already dug the cost per ton should be cut in half, he thinks."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

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## OTTAWA

## WHEAT

## CONFERENCE

At a two-hour conference yesterday afternoon between three officials of the United States Department of Agriculture and three officials representing as many departments of the Canadian Government, the wheat marketing policies of the two countries were compared and discussed, says an Ottawa report to the New York Times. The meeting ended without an official statement as to what progress had been made. Canada was represented by Dr. W. C. Clark, Deputy Minister of Finance; George McIvor, chairman of the Wheat Board, and A. W. Shaw, director of marketing facilities in the Department of Agriculture. The officials from Washington were M. L. Wilson, Under Secretary of Agriculture; Leslie A. Wheeler, chief of the Division of Foreign Agricultural Services, and D. F. Christy, also of the same department.

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## BUSINESS

## UPSWING

Three Federal agencies yesterday offered statistical evidence of substantial business improvement in recent weeks, the Associated Press reports. The Federal Reserve Board calculated that the upswing in steel, textiles, petroleum, shoe and other industries had won back in the last seven weeks all the ground lost in the previous seven months. At the Treasury, a 25 percent spurt in customs collections indicated increased purchases of foreign raw materials and other merchandise. The Commerce Department reported the first favorable turn in its index of national income in nearly a year.

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## INSURANCE

## FOR FARM

## HANDS

The Social Security Board is nearing completion of a three-month study of the problem of extending Federal old-age insurance to 16,000,000 farm hands, hired girls and other wage-earners now excluded from the system, the Associated Press reports. A report to the board's advisory council is due Sept. 15. Board experts have been trying to work out some system of collecting old-age insurance contributions from farm laborers, domestic servants and casual workers--and their employers.

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## MEXICAN

## TARIFFS

The Commerce Department announced yesterday that Mexican tariffs on nearly all products except automobiles will be reduced Saturday to the rates prevailing before the steep increase which became effective in January. The reductions will affect 189 items. Among them are hides, barley grain, lumber, wooden furniture, lubricating oils, plate glass, manufactured copper iron and steel products, refrigerators, steel furniture, certain textiles, radios and cameras. (Press.)



Illinois                    A Cambridge, Mass., report to Science Service says:  
Plant                    "A strangely perfect Illinois plant 'mummy,' 200,000,000  
"Mummy"                   years old, which may hold new clues to the origin of  
                         petroleum, was reported today by William C. Darrah, re-  
search curator at Harvard University. Through a type of preservation never  
before seen by paleontologists, this specimen, the cone of a club-moss,  
has a clearly visible record of delicate protoplasmic structures, cell  
nuclei and nucleoli, Mr. Darrah said. These are invisible in ordinary  
fossils, and are ordinarily difficult for botanists to distinguish even  
in living organisms. It is the only specimen known which preserves the  
generative elements of an ancient plant, according to the Harvard report.  
Under ordinary conditions, Mr. Darrah explained, plants have been fossil-  
ized either as imprints on rock, or when carbonized as a thin layer of  
coal. The new specimen, however, was 'mummified' by hydrogenation of  
the plant oils under peculiar circumstances, he believes...For botanists  
the Illinois 'mummy' enables the first comparison of sexual generation  
in the life history of an ancient plant with that of living relatives,  
Mr. Darrah said. Microscopic study of the ancient cells has revealed  
that cell life two hundred million years ago was identical with that to-  
day, he reported. Biologists have long believed this, but have had very  
little proof..."

Boll                    "Boll weevils and army worms," says an United Press  
Weevil                   report from Memphis, "have caused more damage to cotton  
Damage                   this year than in a quarter of a century, extension agents  
                         reported recently. Swarming over millions of acres of  
cotton in the Mississippi Delta, aided by ideal weather and their other  
allies, storms, red spiders and army worms, boll weevils have cut the  
potential harvest in many counties from one-third to 50 percent. Mid-  
South farmers have been hampered by rains and heavy winds and efforts in  
many areas to exterminate the pests have been futile. (New York Herald  
Tribune, August 22.)

Farm                    J. E. Stanford, writing on "The High Cost of Careless-  
Accidents               ness" in Southern Agriculturist (September), says in part:  
                         "There were 109,000 farm accidents in the United States  
last year; most of which were preventable. Of this number 4,500 resulted  
in death and 8,600 resulted in permanently crippling the unfortunate  
victims. A total of 14,707 years of valuable time was lost by those hurt  
in farm accidents. The time lost on account of accidents was worth  
\$10,700,000. Machinery caused 38 percent of all farm accidents, livestock  
26.5 percent, falls 15 percent, and wood cutting 7 percent. Such things  
as falling objects, infections, gunshot, explosions, fire, poisons, and  
children at play caused the remaining 13.5 percent."

This issue also contains "The Most Money for your Cotton" by  
Harry L. Brown, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture; and "New Cotton  
Services" by W. B. Lanham, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.



Windfall Tax Offices      A New York Herald Tribune (August 23) report from Washington says in part: "The setting up of thirteen regional offices to expedite determination of 'unjust enrichment' tax liabilities and settlement of claims for refund of processing and floor stock taxes paid under the first agricultural adjustment act program, which was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, was announced/yesterday by the Bureau of Internal Revenue... After the Supreme Court invalidated the processing and related tax provisions of the agricultural adjustment act, a situation was created involving a possible loss to the government of approximately \$1,220,000,000 in unpaid taxes and refunds... This so-called 'windfall' tax is designed, it was asserted, only to recoup for the Treasury and the public, taxes that were actually paid by numerous business firms and consumers generally, but which became part of private, rather than of the public revenues... The 'windfall' tax applies against amounts that those processors have been unjustly enriched at public expense..."

Pyrethrum In Kenya      A Science Service item by Robert D. Potter says in part: "The highlands of Kenya in East Africa, just south of Ethiopia are the newest spot where attempts are being made to grow pyrethrum flowers, whose extract goes into insecticides that must be harmless to man and animal. Fly sprays are a major product using pyrethrum although it enters into the composition of certain sprays for garden crops... Japan produces about 95 percent of the world's pyrethrum, and the United States, using some 20,000,000 pounds a year, is half of the world market... A report in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry on the Kenya pyrethrum plantings and harvest shows that the little flowers of African cultivation are superior, in their potency, to the Japanese variety. While pyrethrum plants have been grown in many parts of the world--California, Lancaster, Pa., and Colorado are three American examples--it is only in Kenya that a product superior to that of Japan is obtained."

Georgia Tobacco Record      A Douglas, Ga., report to Florida Times-Union (Aug. 21) says: "J. B. Hutson, Assistant Agricultural Adjustment Administrator from Washington, estimated today Georgia growers would receive \$19,050,000 for tobacco grown in 1938, an all time record for income from this crop. Hutson said his estimates showed Georgians marketed 93,000,000 pounds of bright leaf this season. Tobacco farmers must decide whether they 'want a moderate acreage and a reasonable income or a large production and a low income,' Hutson said. The State's total marketing quota will be raised between 5,000,000 and 7,000,000 pounds, Hutson said, explaining readjustments being made by granting increases to individuals would be added to the preliminary State allotment. Georgia growers have taken the quota question to court, along with tobacco growers in Florida."



Advocates                      A New York Herald Tribune report (August 24) from  
Zoning                      Ste. Anne De Bellevue, Quebec, says in part: "Zoning--  
Of Land                      'the use of the police power as applied to land'--was de-  
fended on grounds of public interest last night by Pro-  
fessor George S. Wehrwein, of the College of Agriculture at Madison, Wis.,  
in an address before the international conference of agricultural econo-  
mists. While conceding the system was drastic and perhaps reduced the  
individual's income and diminished the value of his land, Professor  
Wehrwein argued it was justified because 'it is in the interest of public  
welfare and even health and safety.' The convention representing nine-  
teen nations, opened a discussion today on 'Land Tenure and the Social  
Control of the Use of Land.' "

Long-Term                      Florida Times-Union (August 17) reports from Miami:  
Working                      "A new system for making long-term loans to provide dis-  
Capital                      tressed farmers with operating capital was described at a  
conference of Farm Security Administration Workers yester-  
day. The plan will be put into effect experimentally in Florida, Alabama,  
Georgia and South Carolina. E. S. Morgan, assistant director in charge  
of rural rehabilitation for this region, explained the plan which he  
originated. Under present arrangements, Morgan said, a needy farmer can  
obtain operating capital only on short-term loans. Because of this he  
cannot make long-term leases of land and is forced to rent from year to  
year at unfavorable rates. The direct result is a frequent shifting from  
one location to another with little prospect of acquiring machinery and  
animals. The new system as described by Morgan permits the farmer to  
borrow working capital for a period of five years with the stipulation  
that he repay a portion each year and place in a bank account opened  
jointly in his name and the name of the FSA an amount sufficient to operate  
his farm the next year. As an illustration, said Morgan, a farmer who  
needs \$200 to provide seed, fertilizer and other essentials for a crop  
season can borrow the amount and repay it in five equal annual payments  
of \$40 and interest. He must also place \$200 in the bank at the end of  
a crop season. The land owner, knowing the tenant has funds for operating,  
is willing to make a long-term lease at better rates. In the Spring the  
operating capital is released to the farmer by the district FSA supervisor."

Egg Auction                      The first egg auction to be formed in the South has  
at Knoxville                      been organized in Knoxville with the opening date Tuesday,  
August 16, with auctions to follow twice each week on  
Tuesdays and Fridays. The auction has been organized for the mutual bene-  
fit of producers, distributors and consumers; states A. J. Chadwell, U.T.  
extension poultryman, who cooperated with the extension marketing depart-  
ment in assisting producers and others interested in setting up this new  
method of marketing eggs which has proven highly successful in the East.  
(August 17.)